



# TOWN CAMPUS TO BE LEARNING HUB

BY CHARLOTTE CALLEAR

**FURTHER** education is returning to Cannock with the launch of a multi-million pound learning centre in the former town centre college site.

The South Staffordshire College campus, which was up for sale, has now been taken off the market and the centre will open in September, after a £6.5 million cash injection.

It comes a year after the closure of the campus due to financial pressures, forcing students to travel to Penkridge, Lichfield and Tamworth to study. The building will be reopened as a 'skills and innovation hub'.

It will offer courses, training and apprenticeship opportunities across areas including engineering and social care as part of a joint venture between Cannock Chase Council and the college. Councillor George Adamson, leader of the council, said: "It is fair to say we were very critical of the decision to close the Cannock campus a year ago.

"However, a year on, and after positive discussions with the college and employers, we have been able to turn round what was a bleak position into something very new and exciting.

## Modern

"The college should be commended for exploring and now committing to this new venture, and we welcome the support of the business community to help provide invaluable educational opportunities which will help to raise skills levels among the local workforce.

"The district council is already committed to investing £500,000 into an engineering academy to provide modern equipment."

Courses will be provided in engineering, advanced manufacturing, electrical installation and engineering, energy, construction, digital, health and social care and early years, and mathematics and English for employability.

Some of these will be available from this September while others will be developed in future years. There will also be an apprenticeship hub, as well as areas for start-up businesses, and space for office use.

Claire Boliver, chief executive principal of South Staffordshire College, said: "After many months of weighing up a wide variety of options, we have now arrived at a new future for the Cannock campus that we feel represents the best outcome for the local community.

"A new innovation and skills hub will be the most financially sustainable and economically beneficial use of this site. We are therefore no longer offering the site on the open market."

## IT RALLY IS MONTE CARLO OR BUST FOR FUNDRAISERS



Team captain Susan Jackson and members of the Rugeley Army Cadet Force look forward to the Monte Carlo or Bust Rally *Picture: Alan Fogarasy*

IT'S a Top Gear style challenge that even Clarkson, May and Hammond will be proud of.

A team from Rugeley will be taking on Europe's largest banger driving challenge next month, helping to raise funds for the Rugeley Army Cadet Force.

The Monte Carlo or Bust Rally will see around 75 vehicles travel from the UK to Monte Carlo via France, Switzerland and Italy. The rally challenges entrants to source

and decorate a banger for less than £500 and take part in a variety of fun challenges along the way competing for points and prizes.

Previous challenges include organising a conga of nuns and having a band play in the back seat of their car.

Team captain Susan Jackson, of Rugeley, will lead the group on a three-day crusade, which promises some of Europe's most exciting locations and spectacular roads with backdrops of sun, sea, sand and snow. The team

now have to get their car and fancy dress ready for the event, which takes place from July 19 to 22.

Simon Johnston, of Bust Rallies, said: "We are delighted that Susan and the team are joining us this summer on Europe's ultimate banger rally adventure. This is a brilliant opportunity to have an amazing driving experience in one of the worst cars from Rugeley!"

More information can be found on the event website at [www.bustrallies.com](http://www.bustrallies.com)

## COUNCIL

### Action call over 'eyesore' old pub

COUNCILLORS in Chase Terrace have called for urgent action over a former pub.

Labour councillors Eric Drinkwater and Sue Woodward say the deteriorating state of the old Royal Oak at Sankey's Corner is blighting other businesses.

Councillor Woodward said: "Month by month, the premises look worse and worse. It's a real blight on the centre of the town."

Councillor Drinkwater said: "This site has been an eyesore for many years. We've pressed Lichfield District Council time and again to act but nothing has happened."

## EMERGENCY

### Woman caught up in bungalows fire

A PENSIONER was taken to hospital after a blaze engulfed two bungalows.

Firefighters attended the scene in Penkridge after reports of the fire in Orchard Crescent at 5.45pm on Monday.

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service said it was unclear what started the fire, which left an elderly woman needing oxygen from paramedics.

The fire service said she was taken to hospital for a 'precautionary check'.

## IRONMAN

### Hundreds on marks for big challenge

LIMITED places are available for Ironman 70.3 Staffordshire on Sunday but online registration has closed, say organisers.

More than 2,500 competitors are to take part in the endurance challenge, all hoping to complete a 1.2-mile swim, 56-mile bike ride and 13.1-mile half marathon.

For more information on road closures, visit [www.ironman.com/staffordshire70.3](http://www.ironman.com/staffordshire70.3) or call 0333 011 6600.

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## INSIDE

### ENEMIES IN WAR ENJOY REUNION



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**CONTACT US**

**EDITORIAL:**  
Tel: 01543 465302  
E-mail: [cannock.chron@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:cannock.chron@expressandstar.co.uk)

**SPORTS:**  
Tel: 01902 319453  
E-mail: [chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk)

**PHOTOGRAPHIC:** Tel: 01902 319430  
E-mail: [picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk)

**ADVERTISING:** Sarah Jones  
Tel: 01543 465341  
E-mail: [sarah.winfield-jones@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:sarah.winfield-jones@expressandstar.co.uk)

**PROPERTY:** Marguerita Finnegan  
Tel: 01543 465337  
E-mail: [marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk)

**MOTORING:** Jayne La Hiffe  
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# Keith rewarded for help with cancer



Keith Burton – 'grief'

A WIDOWER from Penkridge has received a national volunteer award from Macmillan Cancer Support.

Keith Burton received the Vicky Clement-Jones Award at the charity's volunteer conference.

The award is given in recognition of an individual using their own cancer experiences to influence others; applies insight from their own cancer experiences to improve the lives of other people affected by cancer; and demonstrates the impact that their role makes on other people affected by cancer.

After losing his wife to cancer, Keith

decided to do a sponsored walk on the North Yorkshire Moors for Macmillan – along the same route that he and his wife used to enjoy.

Keith has since completed a trek every year for 15 years, raising more than £35,000 while still leading Macmillan's Stafford committee.

He is also keen to help local people with cancer and, from attending hospital appointments with people to writing benefits applications on their behalf, he is a constant source of support.

On hearing he had won the award, Keith said: "It was quite an emotional

few moments. What constantly motivates me is the memory of how my wife coped with the devastating effect of chemotherapy.

"We were totally isolated, consumed with grief, knowing this cancer was terminal. We were alone, coping as best we could with the dreadful side effects of the treatment Jenny was receiving."

Pauline Lewis, regional fundraising manager for Macmillan, nominated Keith for the award. She said: "I was absolutely delighted that Keith won this award. He definitely deserves it for all the amazing and great things he does."

# Site search to avoid power station delay

**ALTERNATE power sites are being investigated by HS2 in a bid to prevent a delay to a power station's redevelopment.**

Part of the closed-down Rugeley Power Station will be used to provide an electricity supply for the new railway line from Birmingham to Crewe.

It would mean that redevelopment of the site – the largest brownfield area in the West Midlands region – could be delayed until 2029. However, following an appeal by Lichfield District Council, HS2 has agreed to look at alternative sites to secure power for the line.

In a letter, solicitors writing on behalf of the firm said: "The promoter (HS2) recognises the importance to the county of the site of the former Rugeley Power Station for redevelopment."

"At the request of a number of interested parties the promoter has been considering whether there is an alternative option for the electricity supply required for the proposed scheme, which would mean that the promoter would not need to exercise the powers in relation to the Rugeley Power Station."

**Closed**

"The work is ongoing, and the promoter should be in a position to report on progress within the next few months."

The power station closed in 2016 with the loss of around 120 jobs.

It is split between Cannock Chase and Lichfield District. councils. Plans are in place to provide employment land on the Cannock side, and housing on the Lichfield side but work cannot start until it is known if HS2 needs to use the site, and how.

A permanent power supply could be created at the site for the line.

George Adamson, leader of Cannock Chase Council, said: "We're looking at a wait which is unacceptable. The land needs to be redeveloped and could help in terms of meeting targets for employment areas and housing. But we can't do anything until will know what HS2 are to do."

## Class act as schoolroom opens



Brad Parkes, director of CARE, shows off the new classroom which was built by a team of former soldiers

A SPECIAL needs classroom is open for business, thanks to a team of former soldiers who built it in less than a week.

Fusion Community Initiatives, a group of ex-military leaders who help with community projects, built the outdoor classroom for CARE – Chase Aqua Rural Enterprise – at Lower Drayton Farm in Penkridge who work with people with mental disabilities.

It took them four days to complete, and it will be used for various activities including woodwork and art.

Care director Carol Parkes said: "It is a fantastic addition to the space we have got at the moment. We give people designated space to formulate learning, and this new classroom will really help."

"It has become an important resource. This project is about creating space for people to be able to come and enjoy. The reaction has been overwhelming."

# Centre fails to sell for £1.7 million at auction

THE Forum Shopping Centre in Cannock town centre is still up for sale for £1.7 million after failing to sell at auction.

The 29,000 sq ft centre in Market Place attracted bids when it went under the hammer, but they were under the guide price, and it failed to sell.

It comes two years after the shopping centre originally went up for sale.

It was initially expected to fetch £3m in October 2016 but failed to do so.

A Cannock Chase Council spokeswoman said: "Receiving bids does show a degree of investment confidence in the town centre, especially as the property had previously not sold – albeit at a significantly higher guide price – a few years ago."

"The council are hopeful that a new purchaser can be secured in the foreseeable future for the property and would look to establish a positive working relationship with any new owners going forward."

There are 63 plots at the centre, and tenants include Clarks, Dorothy Perkins, Clintons and Shoe Zone.

Independent councillor Maureen Freeman said she would like to see investment into the area.

She said: "I think we are all trying to liven the town the best way we can. It is such a shame."

I do not know what the answer is but it would be lovely if someone really made a big go of it."

# MP at meeting on dementia work

AMANDA Milling joined more than 90 other MPs at an Alzheimer's Society event to launch its new report, 'Dementia – the true cost', as part of its Fix Dementia Care campaign.

During this year's Dementia Action Week the Alzheimer's Society asked the public to take 'small actions' that can have a big impact on the lives of people with dementia.

MPs were urged to attend an event at Westminster to learn more about how they can support the Alzheimer's Society's work to fix dementia care.

Ms Milling, MP for Cannock Chase, said: "One million people will have dementia by 2021 and it is vital that we are able to deliver high-quality social care to everyone that needs it, and at a fair price."

# Rhythm of dance

SUE Munslow gives a demonstration called Rhythm of the Dance to Cheslyn Hay & Great Wyrley Flower Club tonight (Thursday). It starts at 7.30 at the Salem Church Hall, High Street, Cheslyn Hay. Entrance is £6.50 to include refreshments, Non-members are welcome.

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# 'Fab Four' get off to a rocking good start

REVIEW: Mersey Beatles, Prince of Wales Centre, Cannock

FOUR lads from Liverpool is how the Mersey Beatles describe themselves. Like the Fab Four, they were childhood friends and were resident band at The Cavern Club.

The similarities don't end there as both 'George' and 'John' had the looks and mannerisms, including the former's distinctive burr. After some rocking numbers to open, beginning with She Loves You, even Ringo got in on the act with Honey, Don't.

The harmonies on Help! and This Boy in particular could not be faulted, while there was a backdrop of late Beatles associates, including Stuart Sutcliffe, George Martin and Brian Epstein during In My Life.

Twist and Shout ended the first half, before the band reappeared with longer wigs and coloured tunics to play songs from Sgt Pepper.

However, this is where it went wrong for me. 'Paul' was not left-handed, but that doesn't matter if you close your eyes and listen to the music. He did, though, sadly stumble on the lyrics for two songs from the iconic album and followed suit by getting the words wrong to Ob-La-Di Ob-La-Di during a White Album section.

As a reputable tribute act I felt disappointed, although it did not seem to faze the audience, who continued to enjoy the tunes.

A curtailed Hey Jude, at only six minutes long, ended the show.

MARK SHIPP

# Grants to assist county's elderly

ONE-OFF grants are available to older people living in Staffordshire to help with living costs.

The grants are on offer through charity Friends of the Elderly to help relieve the stresses often experienced by older people on a low income.

The service is available to those over state retirement age living on a low income in England and Wales, with money going towards household adaptations, to buy and replace essential items, the cost of equipment to get online and utility bills.

Guidance notes about eligibility can be downloaded at: <http://www.fote.org.uk/our-charity-work/grants/>

Contact Friends of the Elderly via [hello@fote.org.uk](mailto:hello@fote.org.uk) or on 0330 3321110.

# Fraud reported

A LARGE amount of money was handed over to a fraudster claiming to be from the 'fraud squad'. Staffordshire Police received several reports of fraud over the bank holiday weekend including one from Cannock.

# How about going wild in the garden?

THERE is nothing more special than the buzz of bees in flowers or a nesting bird in a hedge or the visit of a hedgehog; nature coming into our gardens brings life to life.

Whether we have a large or small garden, ledge or yard, there is always something we can do to encourage the diversity of wildlife and link up with the countryside and nature reserves. Take a little time to make your garden a little less manicured and a lot more interesting. Leaving your garden Wild is great for Wildlife.

Many plants are considered to be weeds by us but they are native to Britain and provide food for wildlife, so by leaving a patch of your grass long or the bottom of your garden wild you could have your own

In his latest Green Living column, PAUL WOODHEAD takes a look at how wildlife enhances our gardens



mini-beast nature reserve. Think about planting a hedge rather than building a fence. A mix of berries, fruit and flowers with evergreen and deciduous plants will create a diverse habitat for wildlife.

The humble bumblebee is one of the most important insects to help encourage visits to our garden; without them, plant pollination will not happen.

Having the right plants to encourage bumblebee visits will bring your garden alive; everything from alkanet and buddleias, to bluebells and ivy.

Variety is the key to helping butterflies too, as

they need a sunny bit sheltered area with plants that flower in each season. Make sure you have some plants for caterpillars to eat and don't use pesticides in your garden. Thick vegetation will give butterflies a place to hibernate in the winter.

Everything from the common nettles to lavender will all help establish a great habitat. You can also discover how to make your garden friendly to encourage visits from bats or hedgehogs or even a wildlife friendly pond aimed at newts and dragonflies.

The Wildlife Trusts' website has many resources and ideas to help gardens attract creatures great and small.

If you have any tips for sustainable living please get in touch and we'll share them in a future article.

# Amazon denies union's claims over safety policy

AMAZON'S warehouse at Rugeley has been branded one of the most dangerous places to work in Britain.

The GMB union has criticised safety measures at the fulfilment centre after figures revealed ambulances were called out to the site 115 times in three years.

A UK-wide investigation by the union found ambulances made 600 visits in total to 14 Amazon warehouses in the country from 2015 to 2017. In more than half of cases, patients were taken to hospital.

The union, which accuses Amazon of treating staff like robots, also claims 87 per cent of the 200 union members working for the American firm who had responded to a survey said they suffered pain as a result of their workload.

But the company has refuted any suggestion that it has unsafe working conditions.

An Amazon spokesman said: "Requests for ambulance services at our fulfilment centres are predominantly associated with personal health events and are not work-related.

## Encourage

"Nevertheless, ambulance visits at our UK [fulfilment centres] last year was 0.00001 per worked hour, which is dramatically low. Amazon has 43 per cent fewer injuries on average than other companies conducting transportation and warehousing activities in the UK.

"We encourage anyone to come take a tour of our fulfilment centres so they can see for themselves."

The 115 calls to Amazon's 750,000 sq ft Rugeley site, which has 1,800 full-time workers, included three relating to pregnancy or maternity problems and three for major trauma. There were also two call-outs for electric shocks and eight for people who had fallen unconscious. There were 49 calls in 2015, 38 in 2016 and 28 last year.

Mick Rix, GMB National Officer, said: "I've never seen figures like this - Amazon Rugeley must be one of the most dangerous places to work in Britain. Amazon should be absolutely ashamed of themselves."

A statement from Amazon said: "We are proud of our safety record."



Steering towards the Premier League - Milly Follows with her husband's Wolves W8LFS number plate that is for sale

## Number plate is a show of support

WOLVES fans are being given the chance to snap up this personalised number plate as they gear up for the start of the Premier League campaign.

It has been put up for sale by retired salesman Ian Follows, who reckons the W8LFS plate is the best you can get as a supporter of the Molineux men.

The 75-year-old, from Cannock, bought it 15 years ago for around £2,000.

He obtained it, as a Wolves fan, to display on vehicles, including a Ferrari 308 GTI and a Porche 911, at car shows.

He said: "I don't think a Wolves fan could get closer to a more appropriate plate."

His wife Milly, 58, said: "I think it is a perfect addition to a Wolves fan's car."

Anyone wanting to buy the number plate, which is retained until 2026, should call Mr Follows on 07976 653388.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Holiday drivers set record for M6 Toll

A RECORD number of drivers used the M6 Toll ahead of the last bank holiday, it has been revealed.

A total of 74,285 vehicles passed through the barriers on the motorway on Friday, May 25 as families joined the big getaway. The 27-mile M6 Toll was bought by Australian-based IFM Investors last year.

Meanwhile, a service aims to help improve new drivers' skills and confidence on the motorway.

The online driving hub at driving-hub.co.uk is designed to help people improve safety awareness, now that for the first time learner drivers who are ready to take their test are allowed to have motorway driving lessons with an approved driving instructor.

## Play equipment upgraded at park

NEW play equipment has finally been installed at Cannock Park.

The new equipment was introduced in time for the Whitsun half-term holiday.

It follows a number of complaints regarding the poor state of the equipment.

The £78,000 project has been funded by money as part of a Section 106 agreement following a housing development in the area.

Councillor Maureen Freeman had fought for years for improvements to the play area.

## Merry monarchs are topic of talk

POPULAR Black Country speaker Mary Bodfish will entertain Norton Canes Historical Society next week.

Mary will return top give a talk on Merry Monarchs Part II.

The meeting takes place at Norton Canes Library, Burntwood Road, on Tuesday, June 12. Doors open at 7pm and admission is free for members and non-members.

There will be no meeting in either July or August and the new programme will be printed for distribution at meeting on September 11.

## Band performs silver anniversary concert

BRIDGTOWN Concert Band will stage its 25th anniversary concert this weekend.

Featuring special guests Tres Cantabo, the musicians will be performing in the concert room at Bridgtown Social Club in Walsall Road, on Saturday.

Doors open at 7pm and tickets, including refreshments, cost £8. Call 07973 408036.

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# COUNTY NEWS

## Festival plea for memories of pub

VISITORS to the annual Wolverhampton Beer and Cider Festival, which starts today, Thursday, are being asked for memories of a city pub that is to be rebuilt at the Black Country Living Museum.

Museum staff will be at the 43rd annual festival to gather information on the Elephant and Castle, which originally stood on the corner of Stafford Street and Cannock Road. It was demolished in 2001 but is being resurrected as part of a new 1940s to 1960s area of the museum.

Anyone with memories of the pub can attend the Camra event at Newhampton Arts Centre from June 7-9.

## Group signs up on social mobility bid

THE Black Country Chamber of Commerce has signed up to the Social Mobility Pledge initiative, demonstrating a commitment to accessing talent from all backgrounds.

The pledge asks employers to partner with a local school to help young people gain knowledge and experience of the workplace, provide work experience and apprenticeships and adopt open recruitment practices.

Chamber chief, Corin Crane, said: "We are encouraging businesses to become a Social Mobility Pledge accredited employer. People should be granted opportunities based on talent and hard work."

## It's a dog's life for spot on sofa

BESOTTED pet owners admit their dog is 'part of the family' with almost 50 per cent of West Midlands pooches having their own spot on the sofa.

More than 60 per cent of dog owners in the regions allow their pooch to sleep on their bed while more than 20 per cent have turned down nights with friends because they can't bear to leave their dog at home alone.

Over half say hello to their dog first after getting home at the end of the day, before greeting their partner.

## Think Bike message riding high again

ROAD users are being urged to Think Bike during National Motorcycle Week of Action and have been warned that police plan to carry out enforcement action during the summer months.

Reducing motorcycle-related collisions continues to be a priority for West Mercia Police, after, over the past three years, 46 people were killed and 557 badly hurt in incidents involving motorcycles in the force area.

# Armed Forces celebration at arboretum

THOUSANDS of people are expected to celebrate Armed Forces Day at Staffordshire's National Memorial Arboretum.

A full programme of events will be staged to entertain visitors including military and non-military families at the site in Alrewas. Attractions will include flypasts from iconic Second World War RAF aircraft, musical entertainment, and a food and gift fair.

The site is hosting celebrations over two days - June 30 and July 1. During the weekend, visitors can grasp the opportunity to learn about the work of the Armed Forces and discover the rich and varied stories of Armed Forces personnel and their families.

Members of 4th Battalion Mercian Regiment will be on hand to speak with visitors and demonstrate equipment. On the Saturday, a military

band from the Royal Corps of Signals will play classic tunes, and a Lancaster bomber will fly past. A parachute drop will be one of the highlights the following day, with a majestic Spitfire also expected to soar over the crowds.

The public is urged to demonstrate its support for the Armed Forces during the parade at midday on the Saturday by lining the route and cheering personnel as they march

past. A formal service of thanks and a wreath laying will take place at 10.45am, prior to the parade.

There will also be a First World War children's assault course, climbing walls, and an inflatable air bag.

Sarah Oakden, head of marketing for the arboretum, said: "This flagship event is a fantastic occasion each year. We are confident that this year will be the best yet."

# Home schooling 'on rise to foil red tape'

By Jennifer Green

**FAMILIES trying to avoid prosecution for poor school attendance are the biggest factor in the rise of home education in Staffordshire, a council report has revealed.**

And some parents have reported feeling 'coerced' by school authorities into taking their child out in favour of a home-schooling option.

The joint review by the Prosperous Staffordshire and Safe and Strong Communities Select Committees found that the number of parents choosing home education to avoid the risk of prosecution has increased by 27.4 per cent over the past five years.

There has also been a rise in the number home educating resulting from near exclusion - a 1.2 per cent increase - and from emotional or behavioural difficulties 1.6 per cent.

## Warned

Parents choosing home education for lifestyle, cultural or philosophical reasons has dropped over the last three years to 1.9 per cent.

The report also warned that some parents may be coerced into home schooling to avoid prosecution or exclusion. It stated: "Whilst we know the majority of Staffordshire schools act for the best interests of their pupils, we have heard anecdotally of parents being coerced into 'choosing' to home educate to avoid prosecution and/or exclusion."

The number of children in home education due to bullying is 6.4 per cent - a two per cent decrease over three years. The report will be debated by Staffordshire County Council's Safe and Strong Select Committee tomorrow (Friday). If the recommendations in the report are agreed it will be submitted to the cabinet member for children and young people.

## Fun in the sun at police HQ open day



Oliver Hussey, aged six from Cannock, with Pc James Ralph, on a police bike at the open day

THOUSANDS of visitors flocked to a police HQ when it opened its doors to the public.

More than 8,000 joined in the annual Staffordshire Police open day that offered people through virtual reality, demonstrations and games a look into how the police tick and how staff serve communities.

The force's famous Staffordshire bull terrier Cooper was a favourite with visitors, along with his canine friends.

Officers showed how trained police dogs search for drugs and guns, and there were also demonstrations

from the fire and ambulance services. Visitors could also have a go at solving virtual crime by finding clues and suggesting the cause of the crime in a virtual reality experience.

The event took place in the sunshine on Sunday at the force's headquarters in Weston Road.

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service, West Midlands Ambulance Service, local community responders and Staffordshire University's law, policing and forensics departments were among many of the groups that were there to answer any questions.

# Huge-towers firm will be behind new rail stations

A MAJOR American construction firm behind the Etihad Towers in Abu Dhabi and London's Crossrail will design railway stations on the proposed Wolverhampton to Walsall line.

It comes as locations for the proposed stations in Willenhall and Darlaston have been revealed - Bilston Street, Willenhall, and land adjacent to Cemetery Road, Darlaston.

Transport Secretary Chris Grayling gave his backing to the long-awaited reopening of passenger services along the line in March.

Now West Midlands Rail and Transport for West Midlands are working together on the new stations, and appointed Aecom to design and develop them.

Mark Langford, spokesman for TfWM, said services could be open as early as 2021.

## Locations

He said: "Aecom has been appointed by TfWM to progress the design development work on Willenhall and Darlaston stations.

"We are anticipating that Darlaston station will be constructed on land adjacent to Cemetery Road, and Willenhall station will be constructed on Bilston Street.

"Full details of the locations, design, cost, and timescales, will become clearer as we go through the design development process."

He added: "Our indicative timescale suggests possible delivery in 2021-22.

"However this is highly dependent on overcoming various programme risks associated with both the stations and introducing a train service to serve the stations."

## Trains to stop for more work

TRAINS will not be running at week-ends on the Chase Line on Sundays this month as work continues on the electrification of the route.

Services between Tame Bridge Parkway and Rugeley Trent Valley will be replaced with buses throughout June. It means that passengers in the Cannock Chase district and Walsall borough will not be able to access services on June 10, 17 and 24.

The stations affected include Rugeley Trent Valley, Rugeley Town, Hednesford, Cannock, Landywood, Bloxwich North, Bloxwich, Walsall and Bescot Stadium.

Chase Line spokesman Francis Thomas said: "Although we don't like having to cancel trains, the work will be worth it when commuters have a better and quicker service."

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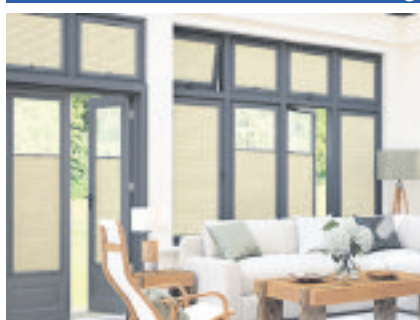
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# Courts are on the hunt for 10 new magistrates

Ten new magistrates are being sought for the Staffordshire bench.

Anyone wishing to apply must do before June 30 with interviews taking place in July, August and September.

These are voluntary positions and Legal training or formal qualifications are not required to become a magistrate, which is a voluntary position. Applications are sought from across the county and from all sections of the community.

Magistrates are not paid, although some allowances can be claimed. Those appointed must be able to attend training and sit in court for at least 13 days a year – a minimum requirement.

Anyone between the ages of 18 and 65 may apply and applications are welcome from members of black and minority ethnic communities, the under-50s, those in paid employment, and people with a disability who are able, either unassisted or with the benefit of reasonable adjustments, to carry out the full range of a magistrate's duties.

For more about the work of a magistrate and how to apply, see [www.gov.uk/become-magistrate](http://www.gov.uk/become-magistrate) or contact [SWM.advisory@justice.gov.uk](mailto:SWM.advisory@justice.gov.uk) or call Ann Danks on 024 7648 2883.

It is expected that applicants undertake three court observation visits prior to submitting an application.

# Mothercare will axe town shops

MOTHERCARE branches in Stafford and Walsall are to close in a move to axe 50 of the firm's underperforming stores, it has been confirmed.

The two closures will place around 30 jobs at risk. The shops affected are at Walsall's Crown Wharf Retail Park and Queen's Retail Park in Stafford.

Stores at Merry Hill shopping centre in Brierley Hill and Telford are safe. It comes as it emerged House of Fraser, which has Beatties in Wolverhampton and a branch in Birmingham, is locked in crisis talks with lenders in a bid to avoid collapse.

Just days ago Carphone Warehouse announced it was to close 100 stores this year, while Marks & Spencer has earmarked 14 branches for closure, including its Walsall branch.

# Nine-mile ramble

CHASE Ramblers head off on Sunday on a nine-mile moderate walk from Sence Valley, Ibstock. Departure time is 9am prompt from Hednesford railway station car park, Anglesey Street. Call John on 01543 677816.

# Therapist to support female officers



Steve Woods – 'really good feedback'

A HYPNOTHERAPIST was brought in by a police force to support women going through menopause.

Steve Woods, who is based in Cannock, spoke to West Midlands Police officers struggling with symptoms caused by the change.

Mr Woods attended a meeting with officers at the force's headquarters in Birmingham last week. He said: "In the case of menopause, the most common thing people think about is the night sweats and the lack of temperature control and that sort of thing. "You can teach people self-hypnosis

so they can use their mind to go off to somewhere with a nice cool refreshing breeze and they feel the effects of that." Mr Woods said he would now be visiting officers on a regular basis as part of a support group at the force.

The police said the hypnotherapist, who runs Experiential Hypnosis, did not receive any money and there was no endorsement.

Symptoms of menopause include sweats, lack of concentration and memory issues. Mr Woods said: "At that initial meeting we got some really good feedback. It was a learning

exercise on both sides – them and me – as being a man, menopause is not something I know a massive amount about. It's an ongoing project. I can't change the menopause but hopefully I can give them some tools to manage it better, even if it's just better sleep."

A spokesman for West Midlands Police said: "Steve was invited to a meeting to talk about his services.

"There was no endorsement or costs involved, just an information session provided as part of our ongoing support to colleagues through the menopause support forum."

# Victims of vehicle theft landed with a £1m bill

**VICTIMS of vehicle theft have been forced to fork out almost £1 million to get their vehicle back since 2011.**

New figures show drivers paid Staffordshire Police £933,862 in recovery and storage charges to retrieve stolen vehicles

In total, 5,782 have had to pay the charges, according to information provided following by a Freedom of Information request. The figures also show a sudden rise in recent years, with hundreds of thousands paid out to the force.

In the past 12 months, £172,057 was paid out, compared with £129,965 in 2016-17.

In 2015-16, £99,335 in charges was paid to Staffordshire Police – almost half of the amount in 2017-18.

Councillor Sue Woodward, opposition leader at Staffordshire County Council, said: "It is appalling as it makes victims pay for the costs of having been a victim of crime.

"It is a hidden income which should have been made available to the public in the past.

## Recovery

"I don't believe that victims should not be seen as cash cows to help fill gaps in the police budgets. I think everybody would be horrified that victims are having to pay for the consequences of a crime."

Motorists can be charged between £150 and £6,000 in vehicle recovery costs, depending on the size and type of the vehicle.

The most expensive charge is for vehicles over 18 tonnes which are substantially damaged and are not upright.

Staffordshire Police, who were unable to provide a comment on the issue, said the charges are set by the Home Office.

The force offered tips to drivers to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of car theft, including not leaving keys in the vehicle unattended and installing professional and well-fitted security systems.

It comes after the number of vehicle thefts across the county went up from 1,100 in 2013 to 1,180 in 2016 – a seven per cent increase.

Meanwhile, West Midlands Police saw a 43 per cent rise to 5,930 in 2016 – up from 4,161 three years before.

## So, how do you put this together?



Councillor Mavis North with the donated bricks which are proving a bit of a puzzle

COUNCILLORS wanting a monument in their village have been left with a 'jigsaw puzzle' after being given a pile of bricks – and no plan.

Design plans for the long-awaited miners' monument in Essington, were lost, the council has revealed.

Members now face the task of putting the bricks together for the measurements to be determined ahead of a planning application being lodged.

The bricks were donated by The Black Country Living Museum and delivered by nearby quarry firm Ibstock.

Councillor Mavis North said: "We have a pile of bricks but no plan on how the monument can be formed – we need to sit down together and work it out, it's like a jigsaw puzzle."

The idea for the monument was first mooted several years ago, with former parish councillor Bryn Whitehouse leading the campaign. After he died, quarry firm Ibstock, who operate Redhurst Quarry in the village, then agreed to supply bricks. The village council wants to put the monument next to its millennium monument.



A picture of how the mining tribute should look

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Fundraising feat from firewalkers

FEARLESS fundraisers braved burning coals in aid of charity.

Dozens turned out at the Royal Oak pub in Great Wyrley for a firewalk. The daredevils walked barefoot over a bed of hot embers, raising money for Caudwell Children – a Staffordshire-based charity that supports to disabled children.

Organiser Caroline Macmanomy, 52, who manages the pub, said: "Caudwell Children provide disabled children with specialist equipment, in home family support, short break activity days, and a respite holiday to help disabled children to reach their full potential."

She was joined on the firewalk by Rachel Bone and three members of bar staff.

## Mixture of stalls for mini-market

A MINI-MARKET is to be held at St Stephen's Church in Bideford Way, Cannock, this weekend.

Organisers say there will be toys, books, gifts, jigsaws, clothes and cakes among other stalls, along with a cafe serving homemade cakes. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Admission to the event, which takes place on Saturday from 9.30am to 11.15am, is free. Visitors are also welcome to take time in the church for some quiet reflection.

Call Roger Baker on 01543 462283 for further details.

## Youngsters provide entertainment at fair

PUPILS from a Hednesford school will provide the entertainment at a summer family fair next weekend.

St Joseph's Primary youngsters will open the event at noon on June 16 before performing. It runs at the Centenary Hall at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Uxbridge Street, until 2pm.

Attractions will include a bottle tombola and craft and general stalls. Refreshments will be available, including tea, coffee and cakes. Everyone is welcome.

## Gogglebox star at village church fete

GOGGLEBOX star Sandra Martin will open a summer fair in Bridgtown next month.

Bethel Church, Union Street, is staging the annual event, with a sponsored jog or amble, following the success of last year's event.

It takes place on July 14 from 1pm, with proceeds towards the church renovation. It will feature fairground games, bouncy castle, a barbecue and a host of stalls.

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5 The Chronicle Thursday, June 7, 2018



IN MY VIEW  
with Mark Andrews



# Compost heap not my idea of fine dining

JAPANESE knotweed, what do you do about it? Or dandelions, or nettles? Now I thought the answer was pretty obvious. Nuke it with the most powerful weedkiller you can find.

But, according to television gardener Alys Fowler, that is completely wrong. Not only does the former Gardener's World presenter have a rather strange name, but it seems she also has a rather strange idea about what to do about garden weeds. Last week she told the Hay Literary Festival that instead of killing them, we should try eating them.

Yum, yum. Now look, I'm the first to admit to being a dreadful gardener. Every year, I spend a fortune on plants that wilt after a couple of weeks. Only last month I replied to an advert in a national newspaper featuring pictures of glorious blooms, offering "two beautiful hanging baskets" for £20. And then they arrived - just two plastic bowls and a bit of chain. No flowers like in the pictures, just two plastic bowls for 20 quid. So I'm gullible as well.

But while I know nothing about gardening - or gastronomy for that matter - it still seems difficult to comprehend that tucking into the compost heap represents the future of fine dining.

Nevertheless, Richard Bainbridge, one of those avant-garde chefs loved by the food critics in The Guardian, says he spent Wednesday last week rummaging around a car park in Norwich looking for ingredients. If that's your thing, you will not only find knotweed on his menu, but a bit of chickweed garnish too.

"I think it is lovely, it is like a light version of watercress," he says.

Simon Rogan, with two Michelin stars to his name, is another fan, although he prefers nettles and dock leaves. Nice.

Then there is Tiffany Francis, who has gone so far as to write a recipe book on the subject. She just loves dandelions, using the heads to make biscuits and the leaves as salad.

Now I probably ought to tread carefully, because someone somewhere has probably decided that disparaging garden weeds is the next big 'hate crime'. But while this sort of thing might go down a storm in the trendier parts of London, can you really see nettles from a car park in West Bromwich catching on around here?

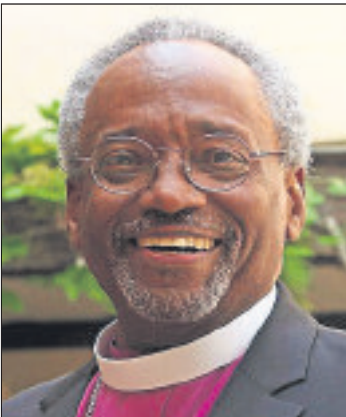
A few years ago, food critic Jay Rayner said there was nowhere good to eat out in the Black Country, because the people didn't want to pay for good food.

Well, no offence Jay, but I think I'll stick with the steak.

# Showbiz names? Didn't recognise one of them!



Tony Blair – Iraq casts a shadow that will last the rest of his life



Bishop Curry's 14-minute wedding sermon – attention span was not the issue



Victoria Beckham – was said to be 'mortified' after confusing actresses

# Reality is that they are not stars at all

VICTORIA Beckham was said to be "mortified" after mistaking Thandie Newton for Zoe Saldana. I sympathise. As I admitted recently, in the blood-and-guts epic The Revenant, I had great difficulty telling Leonardo DiCaprio from the grizzly bear. The Misses Newton and Saldana? I'm sorry, I haven't a clue. The problem is that there are simply so many celebrities today. I've just put down a newspaper supplement with a double-page spread of alleged showbiz stars. Didn't recognise a single one of them. It seems those whose names are preceded by "reality star" are, in reality, not stars at all.

IN October last year I wrote: "Harvey Weinstein is . . . deliciously easy to hate. But as this affair deepens and the Hollywood swamp is drained, don't be surprised if some of your favourite stars turn out to be wading in the ooze." But I never imagined Morgan Freeman would be in the frame and begging forgiveness.

A READER suggests I might have gained more from Bishop Curry's 14-minute sermon at the Royal Wedding if I had a greater attention span. Believe me, attention is not the issue. It's all a question of whether or not you are a believer. If you believe there is a supernatural deity somewhere Up There who created the universe, loves every one of us and has prepared a place of eternal bliss in the afterlife, then sermons such as this must be wonderfully uplifting and faith-affirming. If, on the other hand, you believe there is no God, and that religion is a system designed to keep people in their place with the promise that if this life is awful, things will be

## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



great when they're dead, then you probably regard all God-botherers as at best deluded and at worst dangerous. I have heard many holy men banging on about the Love of God and the joys of Heaven but I've yet to meet one who wants to go there.

IF nothing else, the arrival of the new Duchess of Sussex is a reminder that we're not all known by our first names. Many of us, for reasons of family tradition, personal choice or the demands of showbiz, are known by a middle name. Thus, the Duchess is Rachel Meghan Markle in much the way that the US megastar is William Bradley Pitt, the former Beatle is James Paul McCartney and the "Rivers of Blood" MP was John Enoch Powell.

A USEFUL thing about being known by your middle name is that you can use your first name on official documents. And that means that when an envelope arrives addressed to William Pitt or James McCartney, you know it's not from a friend.

YOU may get a glow of satisfaction about Russian oligarchs being called to account by UK authorities and made to explain how and when they acquired their riches. But remem-

ber this. A quarter of all the income tax paid in Britain is paid by the richest one per cent of income-tax payers. While a moral crusade is heart-warming, dirty money is still money and it may be that the best way to fund the NHS is to look the other way.

ACCORDING to the Sunday Times, rising ocean temperatures may soon make wetsuits obsolete in the seas around Britain. Excellent news. Unless you have a perfect body, the black-rubber wetsuit is the most unkind and unforgiving item of clothing. I saw a woman on Loch Lomond mounting her jetski. She was a large lass, clad in a wetsuit, straddling the saddle with her ample bum in the air and a jet of water shooting up between her legs. It was unforgettable, and not in a good way, and yet from her satisfied smile, she obviously thought she looked like a Bond girl.

I GAVE an example recently of the casual effing and blinding directed at Tony Blair in online debates over everything from Syria to Brussels. I recall writing, after the 1997 General Election, that impossible as it seemed, this young and popular new Prime Minister would one day be the most hated man in England. But who could have imagined that 11 years after he resigned as PM, Blair would still be so energetically despised by so many who once adored him? Blair is desperate for what politicians calls 'legacy' but Iraq casts a shadow that will last the rest of his life.

## TALKING POINT



# No longer saddled with rude drivers

FOLLOWING a forced leave of absence from my bicycle saddle (basically through laziness!) I am now fully back roaming Staffordshire on two wheels – at least, to my place of work anyway.

And, I have to say, apart from a couple of predictable clashes with drivers of white vans who really do think the rules of the road are basically Fast & Furious 1 to 8, things have definitely improved.

In the two years or so I have been off the road, pedal-power wise at least, there is a noticeably more relaxed attitude to me in my bright yellow top, gliding past gathered cars in the bike lanes leading up to traffic lights.

I have found in the past that however courteous one driver might be to allow me access across a junction, then there will be one, or several, hotheads much less courteous in the queue behind them, who almost aim their vehicle at my rusty steed, with the accompanying high revs and hand gesticulations making cycling a somewhat daunting prospect.

Not so now though. After a couple of weeks back in the saddle, I am pleased to report there is usually space allowed to my right-hand side – apart from some aforementioned idiots in vans. Also there is no pressure to get out of the way with an occasional encroaching front bumper belonging to frustrated drivers' cars behind, and generally, it's all pretty laid back.

Of course, and it's oft been said, sensible sharing of the public highway works both ways, and when Lycra-clad racing types ignore everything else on the road to make mad dashes around and in front of the more cumbersome engine-powered vehicles, it is no surprise there are tensions.

The only thing I have found disappointing is previously when I was to-ing and fro-ing as a self-propelled commuter, I estimated that my journey, which is more or less a directly straight route, was about six miles. However, with the advance of the internet, I managed to find a site which worked out distances of travelled routes, including cycling. I worked it out as a measly four miles, and yet for me, it feels like a marathon!

I regularly have to suffer the ignominy of being overtaken by older, heavier cyclists who leave me in their dusty tracks. I have come to realise that my bike simply can't go as fast as other bikes...it's probably something to do with the gears/chain/tyres etc – and nothing to do with the rider of course!

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# Reunion for enemies who became friends

**TWO war veterans who fought on opposite sides of the battlefield but are now close friends have reunited.**

Graham Stevenson, aged 93, of Walsall, and Karl 'Charley' Friedrich Koenig, 94, from Hamburg in Germany, fought against each other in the African desert in 1943.

The pair met again at Cannock Chase War Cemetery and are heading off together to Normandy for the D-Day landings anniversary.

Without even knowing, they came into contact in Tunisia during the Second World War, when the British and opposition tanks came up against one another – with Mr Stevenson's tank on the right flank and Mr Koenig's on the left. "Who knows if we came up against each other? We couldn't have been too far away," said Mr Stevenson.

## Captured

"The first time we met in Nottingham at the regimental annual reunion and dinner. Karl was looking at an artist's impression of the battle and I pointed at the tank nearest and said 'That was my tank – number 24'. He said 'Well I was on the left flank'."

"I said 'Well it's a bloody good job we missed then!'."

Mr Stevenson was 16 when he signed up and was a machine gunner for the Sherwood Ranger Yeomanry Tank Regiment and went on to fight in Normandy – before being hit by gunfire, which saw the end of his service.

Mr Koenig was part of the German 21st Panzer Division and his war came to an end in May 1943. He was captured by the Americans and became a prisoner of war until 1947.

In 1991, Mr Koenig was invited to become an honorary member of the Sherwood Rangers Old Comrades'



Ranger Graham Stevenson



Karl Koenig was captured



Graham Stevenson, left, and Karl Koenig at Cannock Chase War Cemetery

Association. He had sought out Ken Ewing – a crew mate and friend of Mr Stevenson – who was head of the southern branch of the group.

More than 15 years later, Mr Koenig always wears a Sherwood Rangers beret and now they are the only two left of the group. After meeting on yearly basis over the past decade or so, this could be the last time they both

meet. American Heather Steele, of the World War Two History Project, has been crowdfunding to produce a film detailing their story.

Mr Stevenson said: "The only positive thing that can come out of war is when the enemy can become friends."

Mr Koenig said it has been his mission to promote forgiveness ever since being released as a Prisoner of War.

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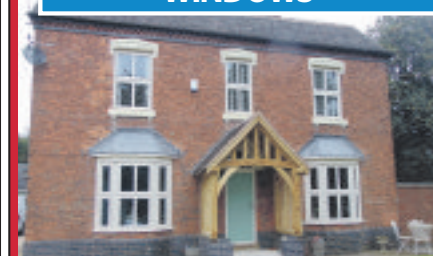


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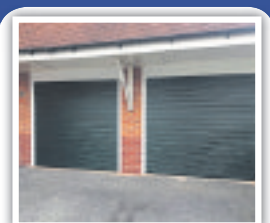


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## Body on the lookout for new trustee

THE Conduit Trust, established in the early 1700s to provide a fresh water supply to Cannock, is looking to appoint a new trustee.

The trust's primary purpose is distributing the income from its funds lodged with the Charity Commission. Trustees meet twice each year and have approximately £4,000 available to award as grants to local organisations which meet the criteria set out in the trust deed, the prime requirement being that it must be located within one mile of the Conduit Head by the bowling green in Cannock.

Contact me at gerryhindley@icloud.com giving brief details of your background and experience and similarly anyone wishing to make a request for a grant.

**GERRY HINDLEY**  
Cannock

## Remainers, we are leaving EU. Get over it

I'M with the gentleman in the audience on Question Time May 24), who answered the remainers' accusations by saying he knew exactly what he was voting for when he voted in the referendum in June 2016.

He was very clear in his own mind what leaving meant. I knew exactly what I was voting for, as did the millions of those who voted with me, and I am sure there is a strong correlation between all those views. I was confident it was the right decision then, and I am just as confident it is the right decision now.

I am not with Anna Soubry, on the same programme, who seems to believe that leaving the EU does not mean leaving the single market and customs union, only leaving the 'political institutions'. They still don't get it, do they? They are one and the same thing. The

EU is the single market and the customs union, as well as the 'political institutions'. Leaving one means leaving them all.

This sort of stance from remainers goes against all logic and common sense. It is in reality no more than an attempt to prevent us leaving at all costs. We are leaving. Live with it.

**MIKE SMITH**  
Stafford

## Forget-Me-Knot event was a real success

I WOULD like to give a huge thank you to everyone who made my 'Forget-Me-Not' event at Norton Canes Library on Saturday, May 26 such a huge success.

The volunteers led by Val Brabazon did a wonderful job keeping everyone supplied with food and drinks. We enjoyed a good 'sing-along' with Kathy Christian.

I must also thank everyone who made cakes and the companies who donated food and refreshments.

This was the second year I have run this event as part of Dementia Action Week and I am pleased to say that this is another example of how people can Live well with Dementia.

**COUNCILLOR SHEILA HARDING**  
Norton Canes

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**POST**  
Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Code of Practice:  
Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at [www.ipso.co.uk](http://www.ipso.co.uk).  
If you are unhappy with the accuracy of a story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. If we cannot reach a resolution

### EMAIL

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contact Ipso at [complaints@ipso.co.uk](mailto:complaints@ipso.co.uk) or by post at Ipso, c/o Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, London, EC4M 7LG

## We need variety of operators

CALLING all bus users in Cannock, Stafford and Walsall.

It's time to stand up against Arriva, who have failed to listen.

As a reader said a few weeks ago, local buses used to be run by small operators, but now we are left with a single giant monopoly.

How is this in the public interest?

We need new operators from the West Midlands who are willing and able to provide more frequent services seven days a week, morning till late.

Diamond have already shown interest, I urge you to contact them and invite them to our area!

Keep sharing my petition at [chn.ge/2FjJ5Tb](http://chn.ge/2FjJ5Tb)  
**MR LEE MURPHY**  
Campaigner

## Admit problem to have a chance of tackling it

ACCORDING to Tom Robbins there are no bullies in the Brexit camp (Chronicle letters, May 24). And yet, the pro-Brexit press regularly intimidates its opponents by calling them traitors, provoking a flood of death threats.

This is particularly disturbing in view of the murder of Remain MP Jo Cox, whose killer apparently considered her a traitor. As long as people deny the bullying exists, it will continue. Admit there's a problem and you have a chance of tackling it.

**CLARE SHOLL**  
Burntwood

## Dismay at closure of M&S

IS anyone else dismayed at the imminent closure of Marks & Spencer in Walsall? Following hot on the heels of the BHS closure, this is another nail in the coffin. Without the lure of M&S to the town, I believe footfall in Walsall's shops will reduce dramatically. Will the last person to leave kindly turn out the light?

**ANN BROOME**  
Willenhall

## Thanks for help after my fall

THANK you so much to all who helped me when I had a fall on Old Hednesford Road, Cannock, on May 24, including the man in the van who was very concerned.

**SUSAN NEWTON**  
Cannock

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# Sculptor to the rescue at 11th hour

Shareshill WI

PRESIDENT Margaret Beddard welcomed everyone including new member Linda Halligan and visitors Dawn and Jane to the Resolutions meeting.

Since last meeting 17 members and friends spent a very interesting afternoon at Chillington Hall - home of the Giffard family whose ancestors came to England with William the Conqueror.

The next Heathside Group Meeting will be on October 25, 7pm at St Luke's Church Hall, Cannock - cost £2.50. The entertainment will be singer Michael James and the competition a funny poem or song lyric.

The resolution for the National AGM on Mental Health Matters was discussed and resulted in a unanimous vote in favour of the resolution.

The scheduled speakers from Albrighton Potteries were unable to attend, but at the eleventh hour sculptor and artist Robert Bowers agreed to step in.

Robert was born in Dudley and studied at Wolverhampton University and Loughborough College of Art and is an associate Member of Royal Birmingham Society of Artists.

Among his many sculptures are a Man on a Motorbike, seen outside Waitrose in Wolverhampton, and a Royal Television Award won by actor John Thaw.

Margaret thanked Robert for coming to the rescue at short notice and giving such an interesting insight into the art and sculpture world.

# Account of life in ambulance service



Guest speaker Geoff Brookes with Soroptimists president June Bould

CANNOCK Soroptimists were entertained by after dinner speaker Geoff Brookes, who provided them with an amusing account of his life in the Staffordshire Ambulance Service which spanned 25 years.

Geoff began his career as an ambulance driver at a time when the role of the ambulance technician did not exist. He undertook training at Pelsall Ambulance Training Centre and enjoyed the role so much he became a senior training instructor, later using his skills and expertise to provide life-saving training in schools.

Geoff shared some of the "highs and lows" of his 25 years in the service. He is especially proud to have helped to deliver babies, some in unusual circumstances. Geoff has been heavily involved in charity work and was rewarded for his efforts by the Queen with a Golden Jubilee medal having raised £24,000. He was also congratulated by Tony Blair and earned himself a citation in the Guinness Book of Records as one of a team that performed 150 hours of CPR. When she gave the vote of thanks, Carole Holdcroft presented Geoff with a small donation for Stafford Stroke Club, of which he is chairman.

## Cannock Soroptimists

Geoff has been heavily involved in charity work and was rewarded for his efforts by the Queen with a Golden Jubilee medal having raised £24,000. He was also congratulated by Tony Blair and earned himself a citation in the Guinness Book of Records as one of a team that performed 150 hours of CPR. When she gave the vote of thanks, Carole Holdcroft presented Geoff with a small donation for Stafford Stroke Club, of which he is chairman.

# George Formby story entertains

## Hednesford A TWG

Thoughts are with their families. Good wishes were also sent to Gill Rose during her recent illness.

The outings secretary has booked for members to visit

Southport in the summer. Alvaston Hall is booked for the Christmas celebrations.

Speaker was John Whalley, along with his wife. John gave a wonderful story of George Formby and entertained the ladies with memorable songs.

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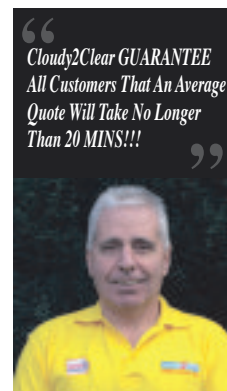
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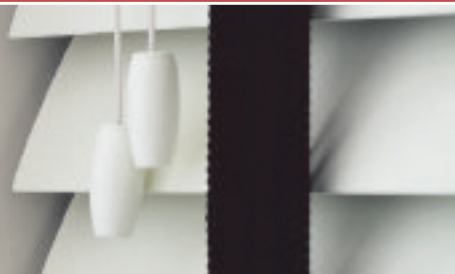
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THE Chase Sailing Club will have the WOW factor as it launches its first ever Women On The Water programme.

Sport England's 'This Girl Can' initiative has shown females want to do more physical activity.

Now Chase SC, based within Chasewater Country Park, is giving more local females the chance to get active afloat by putting on their first females-only course, run by women instructors. It takes place over the weekend of 14-15 July, with wetsuits and buoyancy aids provided by the club. There is a 50 per cent discount on the course fee for participants who join the club while everyone who successfully completes the weekend course will be awarded their RYA Level 1 Start Sailing certificate.

Contact libby.constance@btinternet.com or visit [www.chasesc.org.uk](http://www.chasesc.org.uk) to find out how to get on the water at The Chase SC this summer.



Susannah Tooze loves the fresh air at Chase SC

# Celebrities to host ball in aid of ambulance charity

**BROADCASTER** Nina Hossain and TV presenter Vernon Kay will host a fundraising ball and recognition awards for the Midlands Air Ambulance charity.

The glittering evening, now in its seventh year, takes place next Friday at the Vox Conferencing Centre in Resorts World, Birmingham.

Family jewellery firm TH Baker will be headline sponsor for the second year running, while M6 Toll are among the award sponsors.

The event will recognise the life-saving work of the charity's aircrew, the generous support of its volunteers, fundraisers and business partners, and the inspirational stories of airlift heroes, all who will be honoured for their achievements. Sofia Voutianitis, corporate partnerships manager



Broadcaster Nina Hossain

for Midlands Air Ambulance Charity, said: "Without support from local businesses, Midlands Air Ambulance Charity wouldn't be able to save lives every day." The evening will start with



Television presenter Vernon Kay

a drinks reception and live music, followed by a four-course meal, auction, luxury raffle and a DJ set.

For ticket details, visit [midland.sairambulance.com](http://midland.sairambulance.com)

## Call made for Proms sponsors

NEARLY 20 sponsors have signed up so far to support Lichfield Proms in Beacon Park. However, organisers say more are needed to make the 20th such event even more spectacular.

Lichfield District Council is grateful to the sponsors who have already come forward to make sure its annual outdoor concert can take place.

The council is still keen to hear from businesses interested in helping to put on the September 1 extravaganza. Call Lyn Hammant on 01543 308866.

Thousands of people from across the region will gather for free to hear entertainment from The British Police Symphony Orchestra and the City of Lichfield Concert Band, along with classically trained singers and a fireworks finale.

## Happy Days

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- Island Tour



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- Visit to Bangor



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5 Days Monday 24th September 2018

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### DAY TRIPS FOR MONTH OF JUNE

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Wednesday 13th	Roman City of Bath	£23.00
Saturday 16th	Royal Windsor	£22.00
Wednesday 20th	Emmerdale Studio Experience	£41.00
Thursday 21st	Stratford-on-Avon	£22.00
Saturday 23rd	Weston Super Mare Air Festival	£24.00
Sunday 24th	Weston Super Mare Air Festival	£24.00
Monday 25th	Bakewell & Canal Cruise <b>NEW!</b>	£39.00
Tuesday 26th	Wedgwood & Trentham <b>NEW!</b>	£24.00
Wednesday 27th	Tewkesbury Market & Worcester	£22.00
Thursday 28th	Wye Valley Cruise & Lunch	£41.00
Saturday 30th	Liverpool	£22.00

### DAY TRIPS FOR MONTH OF JULY

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Saturday 7th	Southport	£22.00
Saturday 7th	Southport Air Show	£30.00
Sunday 8th	Southport	£22.00
Sunday 8th	Southport Air Show	£30.00
Tuesday 10th	Wye Valley Cruise & Lunch	£41.00
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### TORQUAY

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### WEYMOUTH

- Berkley Hotel
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# Mick on target to reach his weight loss goal

A 77-YEAR-OLD granddad, who used to take the wheel of trucks for a living, has now driven down his weight.

Mick Bullock, of Hednesford, hit the target, slimming down two stones to reach his 'goal' weight.

The father of two, who has five grandchildren, struggles with arthritis and turned to Weight Watchers to help him slim down. He says his new healthy look has helped him to walk with less pain.

He tipped the scales in at 13st 11lbs at his first session last June. He now checks in at 11st 11lbs.

Mick, who spent 53 years as a HGV driver, said: "I had been suffering with my knees due to arthritis and was out of my comfort zone with my weight. My neighbour suggested I go to Weight Watchers with her as she was a member, I was hesitant to go as I thought it would be all ladies."

## Mindset

"I was made very welcome by everyone and soon felt at ease," he added.

"The members are very supportive, the meetings are very informative and we discussed different meals, snacks, our mindset and how to incorporate some activity into our day which is fun."

"Over the period from then until February this year I gained just half a pound twice and have now reached my target weight of 11st 11lbs."

"I can truthfully say I feel my health has improved due to my weight loss. I can now walk high on pain free and wish I'd joined years ago."

Mick goes to Weight Watchers on a Saturday morning, led by Nicky Orton, from 8.45 at Avon Business & Leisure Centre, Avon Road, Cannock.



Mike Bullock before his weight loss



Mick is now two stones lighter

## Store seeks charity partner

A SUPERMARKET is calling for charities to put themselves forward as its charity partner.

As part of Sainsbury's Local Charity of the Year scheme, the Cannock store is urging charities to come forward.

The Orbital Retail Park store will shortlist three charities for customers to vote on. The winning charity will then receive a year of support from the store, which includes fundraising and awareness drives. Customers can

vote between June 11 and 24 in stores and online.

The scheme is now in its 10th year. Last year, it raised more than £1.2 million for charities across the UK with the Cannock store supporting Guide Dogs For the Blind.

Store manager Andy Beardmore said: "We're excited to be offering a new charity the chance to receive support from our customers and colleagues."

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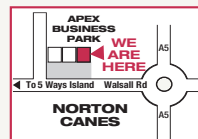


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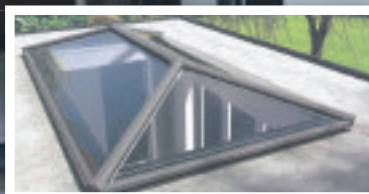
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# State-of-art facilities on show as college hosts open day

## Commercial feature

Stafford College, part of Newcastle and Stafford Colleges Group (NSCG), will be holding an open event on Saturday, June 16 between 10am and 12pm, to give prospective students an insight into the A-level, vocational and apprenticeship courses on offer as well as showcase the college's brand new state-of-the-art facilities.

As well as getting course advice on the range of post-16 qualifications on offer, visitors will have the opportunity to meet the college's principal, Karen Dobson, chat to current students and take a tour of the new and improved facilities at Stafford College.

## Options

Karen Dobson, Principal and Chief Executive of NSCG, said: "The aim of our open events is to provide school leavers with the full range of options available, so that they can make an informed choice about their future studies.

"We have recently expanded our course offering by re-introducing A-levels and we have invested heavily to enhance the facilities on campus.

"We would urge anyone considering going to college in September to come along and take a look at what we have to offer."

NSCG is one of the top performing post-merger institutions in England and a leading college in Staffordshire.

Since the merger between Stafford College and Newcastle-under-Lyme College in November 2016, the college



**The college has invested over £3.5 million to transform the campus facilities**

has invested over £3.5 million to transform the campus facilities and create a modernised and inspiring environment for its students.

Stafford College now has some of the best learning environments in the county.

Courses are available in a wide range of subjects including 22 different A-level subjects plus vocational subjects in art and design, applied science, business, childcare,

computing, construction, engineering, hair and beauty, health and social care, hospitality and catering, music and performing arts, public services, sport, travel and tourism with events and vehicle mechanics.

If you're interested in studying at Stafford College this September, pre-register for the last open event of the summer taking place on June 16, from 10am to 12noon, at [www.staffordcoll.ac.uk](http://www.staffordcoll.ac.uk)

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# Get songwriting off to a Tee

A COURSE for young beginner-songwriters is being held in Burntwood. The course at Neon Studios will be led by Burntwood musician and composer Rosie Tee and musical virtuoso Dan Cippico, lead performer and com-

poser in the band Gathering Tides. The target age is 12-to 21-years-old, and there is no charge. The workshop is being held on behalf of Lichfield Arts. The course began last Sunday and

will also be held on June 17, 24 and July 1, from 10am to 1pm at Neon Studios, New Road, Burntwood. For more information contact Glenn Tunley 01543 676912 or David Barton 07790 605546.

# Macbeth stage is set for talented youngsters

**YOUNG performers from Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay are among the cast at this year's Stafford Festival Shakespeare.** The budding actors will take the stage for the production of Macbeth, in the grounds of Stafford Castle, from June 28 to July14. Lyle Mitchell, Ryan Edwards and several Stafford Gatehouse Youth actors will tread the boards at an annual event that has been staged at the historic location since 1991.

**Trained**

Stafford Festival Shakespeare has a tradition to cast performers from the local area. Lyle, of Cheslyn Hay, trained at Birmingham Theatre School and will take on the roles of Young Siward and Fleance.



Lyle Mitchell of Cheslyn Hay



Young Macduff Ryan Edwards

Ryan, of Runcorn, is a drama graduate from Staffordshire University who will play the role of Young Macduff. Four members of Stafford Gatehouse Youth Theatre will play Macbeth's family. These include debutante Isabella Paddock, aged nine, a pupil at St Thomas More Primary, Great Wyrley. Stafford Festival Shakespeare

spokesman Tom Waldron said: "It is a real privilege to be able to call upon such talented performers from the local area to perform in this year's production." Macbeth will open on June 28 and run until July 14 at Stafford Castle, with tickets available from £14. Call box office on 01785 619080 or go to staffordfestivalshakespeare.com

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# Setback for homes plan on major factory

A PROJECT to build nearly 200 homes on the site of a major factory in Cannock has been dealt a setback. Councillors had been recommended to approve the plan for 180 homes at Gestamp Tallent on Wolverhampton Road last Wednesday. But the decision was deferred by Cannock Chase Council's planning committee due to an issue over no affordable homes being made available. Car parts manufacturer Gestamp, which is moving to a mammoth new £70 million site at Four Askes, wants to demolish its current base. It has now been urged to rethink the proposals before returning for the committee to make a decision at a later date.

# Victoria Cross medals at heart of exhibition



Alex Dziegiel looks upon the cross in memory of Private Bellingham, who died in Afghanistan

**THREE Victoria Cross medals awarded to soldiers take centre stage during an exhibition at Lichfield Cathedral.** Consequence of War, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, promises to take the visitor on a journey from the First World War right up to modern day conflicts. It will tell of the impact on those who fought in such wars, and the women and children who lived through them. Works by artists including Henry Moore, Graham Sutherland and Paul Nash share a stage with a pocket Bible that saved a soldier's life, Victoria Cross medals and the stories behind why they were awarded to soldiers. The voices of pupils reading war poems are also heard. The exhibition includes memorials to the Staffordshire Regiment, including that of soldier Pte Gareth Bellingham, who was killed on duty in Afghanistan in 2011. Consequence of War runs until June 24, 10am to 4.30pm Monday to Saturday and 12.30pm to 2.30pm on Sundays. Admission is free. For details go to [lichfield-cathedral.org/peace](http://lichfield-cathedral.org/peace)



Victoria Cross medals are featured

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# Contestants test mettle in Ironman competition

**MORE** than 2,000 competitors will test their endurance in IRONMAN 70.3 Staffordshire this weekend.

The popular triathlon comprises of a 1.2-mile swim, a 56-mile bike ride and a half marathon of 13.1 miles.

The event will start at Chasewater, and for the first time, finish in Stafford town centre. Temporary road closures will be in place to allow or the competition to take place, to ensure the safety of the competitors and spectators. For more details, and to plan ahead, visit [www.ironman.com](http://www.ironman.com)

**By David Banner**

£1.4 million was spent on food and accommodation by competitors, and a further £1 million spent by spectators during the weekend.

Councillor Mike Smith, cabinet member for leisure at Stafford Borough Council, said: "Things are really shaping up for this to be an impressive event and, with the competition finishing in the town's Market Square for the first time, I am sure there will be a great turnout of spectators cheering the competitors home."

Dan James, Race Director for IRONMAN 70.3 Staffordshire said: "We expect an exciting atmosphere with the new run course offering great spectating locations throughout the town."

"We're really looking forward to welcoming all of the athletes, and I am sure they will get a big reception when they cross the finish line." Last year, an estimated

## Economy

Councillor Mark Winnington, Staffordshire County Council's cabinet member for economic growth, said: "IRONMAN is always a great boost for the local economy, businesses and tourism. We have seen a big interest in the new course."

"We're really looking forward to welcoming all of the athletes, and I am sure they will get a big reception when they cross the finish line." Last year, an estimated

## Jaye rewarded for youth endeavours



**Jaye Mountford receives her award from outgoing council chairman Councillor Alan Dudson**

A RUGELEY teenager has been presented with Cannock Chase Council's Youth Endeavour award.

Jaye Mountford, aged 15, was chosen from the dozens of young people from across the district who were nominated for the award. It is presented to someone aged between 11 and 18, who lives in the district, who has made an outstanding contribution to their community, shown great bravery, or helped others in some way.

Jaye was nominated by Sue Merriman in recognition of the time she has spent over the last five years, helping the 10th Rugeley Brownies, her local unit. Sue said Jaye had grown from a quiet and shy girl into a strong and confident young person. "She is a shining role model to those around her," said Sue.

Outgoing Chairman Councillor Alan Dudson said: "I am delighted to give this award to such a deserving young lady."

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# Hammer falls at £1.1m for House on the Hill

A FORMER care home fetched more than £1 million at auction – with bidding going well above its £700,000 starting price.

The House on the Hill, in Little Aston, near Walsall, was the star lot at the property auction held at Villa Park, selling for £1.1m.

The empty 13-bedroom building in Rosemary Hill Road was previously a care home called House on the Hill and has planning permission to be redeveloped to create a 22-bedroom care facility. It is not known who has bought it and what they intend to do with it.

Gurpreet Bassi, head of residential auctions at SDL Bigwood, said: "We were inundated with requests for viewings and had several offers on this property."

### Snapped

"We were very pleased with the result," he added.

Another property to go for big money was the Ruskin Business Centre in Oldbury Road, Smethwick. The building was snapped up for £470,000.

A former police station on Bearwood Road, Smethwick, was also sold prior to the auction taking place. It has most recently been used as offices but could now be converted.

A vacant shop on Market Street, Stourbridge, was sold for £150,000.

A three-bedroom, semi-detached house in Witley Avenue, Halesowen was offered with a guide price of around £70,000, but when the hammer fell it had sold for £171,000.

A semi-detached, three-bedroom house in Oaklands Green, Bilston, which had a guide price of £19,000-to-£24,000 sold for £97,000.



The House on the Hill in Little Aston which fetched £1.1m

## Club nets celebration cash

CHESLYN Hay Tennis Club has netted £500 to host a community festival as part of weekend celebration.

The club is one of 123 community groups to benefit from National Lottery funding, allowing them to hold celebratory events during the first West Midlands Mayor's Community Weekend on June 30 and July 1.

Mayor Andy Street, said: "We have a strong sense of community in the West

Midlands and this weekend will help build stronger bonds between neighbourhoods by getting together to do something positive."

SSAFA Operation Cycle was handed £500 for a coffee, cake and cycle, promoting the importance of physical and mental wellbeing while £497.40 goes to the Lichfield Re:Cycle initiative to put on the Ride Lichfield festival.

● Wimbledon – Back Page

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Business partners Mike Wilson, left, and Andy Wood, who launched the SureStore concept

A NEW storage space under construction in Cannock could be the first of many for an enterprising pair.

Mike Wilson and Andy Wood, of the newly launched SureStore, have ambitious plans to roll out 10 purpose-built facilities in the Midlands and the north west over the next 18 months, having already secured another three development sites in Wigan, Bolton and Northwich, totalling 120,000 sq ft.

Building of the new 72,000 sq ft of storage facility at Gallan Park on Watling Street, Cannock, was completed in March. Work on the internal fit out is under way and the facility is due to open to the

public in July. With the latest industry cloud-based software, customers will be able to select, book and manage their storage space online.

The SureStore concept is taking off thanks to the sale of Mike's previous brand, Smart Storage, in a £13 million deal and the disposal of Andy's Storage Boost business for an undisclosed sum in 2017. The pair have now secured a new investment package from private equity funders, Seneca Partners, in order to realise their ambitious expansion plans.

Said Mike: "We are excited to be behind this drive to take personal and business storage to the next level."

## Child poverty concerns

ALMOST a quarter of a million children were living in poverty in the West Midlands last year, figures reveal.

Figures were released by End Child Poverty in the hope of highlighting the issue.

Across Staffordshire and the Black Country, a total of 232,503 were classed as growing up living in poverty, which is defined as living in a household earning less than 60 per cent of median income before housing costs are deducted.

In Staffordshire, 4,676 (23 per cent) were affected in the Cannock Chase district, with 3,594 in South Staffordshire (19 per cent), 4,182 in Stafford (17 per

cent) and 3,543 in Lichfield (18 per cent). Sandwell was the worst in the region with 29,641 children (37 per cent), with 23,934 (36 per cent) in Walsall. There were 21,082 cases in Wolverhampton (35 per cent) and 19,555 in Dudley (29 per cent).

Birmingham was the fourth worst area in Britain with 122,296 victims (42 per cent).

Sam Royston, chairman of End Child Poverty and a director at the Children's Society, said: "No family in modern Britain should be struggling to put food on the table, heat their homes and clothe their children. It is scandalous that a child born in some parts of the UK now has a greater chance of growing up in poverty, than being in a family above the breadline."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Investigation into death in custody

AN investigation is under way after a man died in police custody in Cannock.

The Independent Office for Police Conduct have launched an investigation after Ian Dyche, aged 35, was rushed to New Cross Hospital where he died on May 8 after he was detained in Cannock Police Station.

He was arrested on April 29 after police were called to flats in Cannock where he lived and was unresponsive during a medical check in his cell the next day at around 7.45am.

A post mortem was inconclusive and the results of further tests are yet to be confirmed.

### Alert over fake bank messages

STAFFORDSHIRE Police has issued a warning after a 'sharp rise' in fraudsters sending out fake text messages and emails claiming to be from a bank.

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) says thieves claiming to be from TSB are targeting people in the county.

The message requests that the recipient clicks onto a website link that leads to a phishing website designed to steal online banking details.

A spokesman for Staffordshire Police said: "Always question uninvited approaches in case it's a scam."

### Gin night at hotel

A HOTEL is hosting a gin night next week.

Taking place on June 15 from 7pm at the Moat House, Acton Trussell, it will feature 40 gins from around the world and a talk from The Gentleman.

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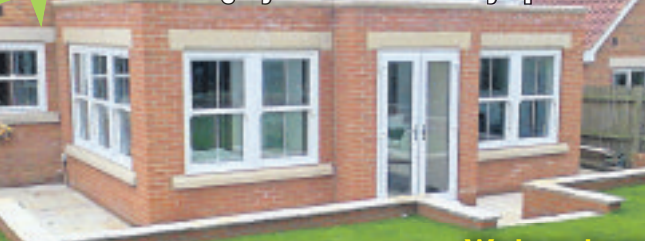
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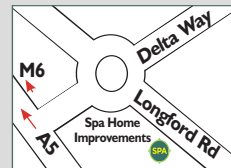
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## Carphone Warehouse stores to close

NEARLY 100 Carphone Warehouse stores are to close this year.

The retailer's new boss Alex Baldock has pledged to 'take action' to tackle challenges in the firm's troubled mobile phones unit.

Dixons Carphone says it will shut 92 of its smaller stand-alone Carphone Warehouse shops over the next 12 months as it gets to grips with changing

consumer habits. Consumers are holding on to older devices for longer and going 'Sim-only', which has dented the group's performance.

The firm insisted no jobs will be lost as staff will be offered the chance to move to larger branches nearby. The group has 1,100 sites nationwide, including a branch in Cannock.

Many Carphone Warehouse shops

are a short distance from the larger PC Word stores, most of which now include Carphone outlets. It is these smaller stores that are most vulnerable, although the company is not yet saying which shops face closure.

Mr Baldock, who replaced long-standing Seb James earlier this year, said he was renegotiating contracts at Carphone Warehouse.

# Voluntary groups' delight at accolade of Queen's Award

SIXTEEN voluntary groups in Staffordshire have been honoured with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

The accolade recognises outstanding voluntary contributions in local communities and has an equivalent status for voluntary groups as the MBE has for individuals.

Groups recognised in this year's awards include Burntwood & District Community First Responders; Rugeley & District Community First Responders; Staffordshire & Birmingham Agricultural Society; and Staffordshire Police Cadets.

In the coming months, the groups will receive their certificate and an exclusive commemorative crystal presented by the Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire, Ian Dudson, who is the Queen's representative for the county.

Mr Dudson said: "Once again, our voluntary groups have done us extremely proud, with a record 16 groups being honoured this year."

Daniel Walsh, group coordinator for Burntwood & District Community First Responders, said: "It's great news that our fantastic team of volunteers have been awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service."

### Proud

"Our volunteers, who work in the community responding to 999 calls and offering life-saving medical interventions, have been honoured with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service – the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK."

Rugeley & District Community First Responders' group co-ordinator Sean Cooper said: "We are so very proud and honoured to be receiving The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service for our charity."

"It is wonderful that the lifesaving work that our volunteer responders have provided over the last 11 years, and continue to provide in our local community today, has been recognised in this way. We will display The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service logo with extreme pride."

Some 250 groups from across the UK have received honours – up from 224 last year. Staffordshire's 16 winners places them third in the country for 2018.

To date, 88 groups from Staffordshire have received this annual award since it was created by the Queen to mark the occasion of her Golden Jubilee in 2002.

## Ashley suffers shock injury



Ashley Williams in hospital and, inset, in his Hednesford playing days

FORMER Hednesford Town player Ashley Williams is recovering in hospital after suffering a collapsed lung during an international friendly in the United States.

The Wales captain suffered the injury when he collided with Mexico's Javier Hernandez in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena.

He was seen clutching his ribs in discomfort before being stretchered from the field.

The 33-year-old was taken to hospital in Beverley Hills, where tests revealed he had suffered a collapsed lung and multiple breaks to two ribs. Williams, who now plays

for Everton, posted this picture on social media showing him looking dazed in his hospital bed and hooked up to a machine helping him to breathe.

But he eased fears about his condition on Facebook and said he was 'resting up' and aiming to be back playing for the start of the new season.

Williams started his career with Hednesford and left the Pitmen in 2003 before rising to the Premier League with Swansea City.

He has won 79 caps for Wales and captained the team at the 2016 European Championships.

## Devices to cushion impact of stroke

NEW devices that could help prevent the impact of stroke will be available across Staffordshire.

Each GP surgery in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is to be equipped with a new mobile device, called AliveCor, that could help prevent the devastating impact of stroke as part of an £11,000 scheme.

The AliveCor devices detect irregular heart rhythms quickly and easily, allowing patients to be referred for follow-up care. Treatment is usually through blood-thinning medication to prevent clots that lead to stroke. It

thought the devices could benefit 6,700 patients at risk of stroke, because of previously undetected irregular heart rhythms.

Dr Ruth Chambers, for the Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups, said: "These devices are small, simple, portable and relatively inexpensive."

"They can be used by GPs in surgery or they can be taken out on home visits."

"The impact of a stroke can be devastating to the patient."

"These devices will be a valuable addition to our practices and another exam-

EIGHT planes usually kept inside will be joining the outdoor line-up for the Cosford Air Show on Sunday.

The RAF Museum will be rolling out the planes from its collection to be exhibited outside on the airfield as part of the static ground displays.

Aircraft confirmed to appear will include the Bristol M1C, a First World War monoplane introduced into the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) to compete with the Fokker monoplanes.

Displayed alongside the Bristol and representing the early days of aviation will

be the Sopwith Strutter, a two-seat multi role aircraft used widely by the RFC, the Royal Naval Air Service and by the French, Belgian and United States Air Forces.

The Wolverhampton-built Boulton Paul Defiant, a two-seat turret fighter operated by No 307 (Polish) Squadron RAF during the Battle of Britain, will be rolled out of the Museum's 'War in the Air' hangar to represent the Second World War era in the show's ground displays.

For more information about the show's line-up and travel arrangements visit [cosfordairshow.co.uk](http://cosfordairshow.co.uk)

## Planes primed for spotlight at show



## Former footballer moves into space



Matthew Ellis and former Port Vale footballer Adam Yates, the newly-appointed Space champion

A FORMER professional footballer has been announced as the first 'champion' as part of Staffordshire's Space campaign. Matthew Ellis, Staffordshire's Police & Crime Commissioner, confirmed former Port Vale defender Adam Yates would be the first Space Champion for 2018.

The 35-year-old, who made more than 400 Football League appearances, will represent Space – the activity scheme for youngsters – at several events during 2018.

Mr Ellis said: 'We are absolutely delighted to have Adam on board as the first Space Champion.

"Success for the youngsters is seen by the smiles on their faces, opportunities experienced for the first time and the things they've learned."

He added: "Space 2018 will continue with its aim of increasing skills, improving health and wellbeing, and creating opportunities for young people to take part in positive activities to make communities safer. Having someone of Adam's profile championing Space can only be positive for the scheme."

## Projects are quids in with £475,000 of Lotto grants

ALMOST £745,000 has been handed to community organisations in Staffordshire through the National Lottery.

The money has been distributed by the Big Lottery Fund, with 41 projects throughout the county, including across Cannock Chase, benefiting.

Receiving £10,000 is Rugeley Cricket Club. It will spend the money on refurbishing a community space to be used by a range of charitable organisations. Fun Start Childcare will use its £9,900 to create a new outdoor play area to focus on the needs of young children.

### Support

Cannock Community Centre's £9,900 award will ensure it can continue its advice drop-in resource to support people experiencing the effects of social disadvantage, while the £9,670 for Rugeley Community Centre will enable it to provide children aged five-to-11 with summer holiday activities and refreshments.

Age UK Stafford and District and Staffordshire Adult Autistic Society will also

benefit. James Harcourt, England grant-making director at the Big Lottery Fund, said: "Whether in a village, town or city, National Lottery funding is helping to make a difference, bringing communities together to help people lead happier and healthier lives.

"It's wonderful to see the positive impact projects like Age UK Stafford and District and Staffordshire Adult Autistic Society are making. They are an inspiration to others, showing what great things can be achieved when people work together to tackle the things that really matter to their community."

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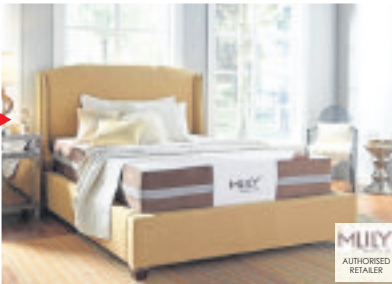
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# Chimney sweep shares top tips for caring for your fire

## Commercial feature

As we move from spring into the summer and the weather has hopefully settled down, your fires will probably be the last thing on your mind.

But now is the best time to get your stoves serviced and the flues cleaned, Why?

Simon Guy, from A Chimney Sweep, said: "Your stove doesn't come cheap and any warranty is usually conditional on regular maintenance, the flue liner is the same."

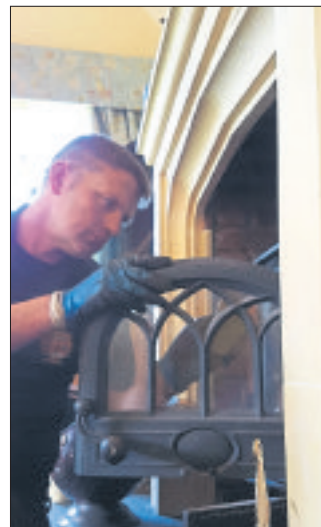
Simon, owner of the Stone-based firm, has said goodbye to colleague Leon who was with the firm for 18 months, and has had a busy winter.

He added: "Already this year I have come across several liners that have corroded and fallen to pieces for one of two reasons or maybe both, firstly soot sits in the flue attracting moisture and forms acids which attack the liner over the months it is not in use."

"Secondly a lot of incorrect flues were fitted for the fuel burnt, smokeless coal usually halves the life of a liner (depending on the amount used), more so if the flue liner is only suited to wood."

"To that end A Chimney Sweep now offers a Hetas-qualified service as well as a sweep for a very competitive price, where I will sweep the flue and go through the manufacturer's servicing guide and, if you agree, replace any of the consumable parts that need replacing (additional costs)."

"Some of you may have suffered from the nuisance of birds nesting in your



A Chimney Sweep now offers a Hetas-qualified service as well as a sweep chimney, the season is usually March to August. Unfortunately, the wildlife and countryside act says they should be left alone unless there is a risk to public health or safety so I tend to leave them until they have flown.

"You may have noticed wood burning stoves in the news following the government's clean air policy.

"Although the number of stoves is on the increase the emissions have been going down, unfortunately not quick enough to meet the targets. The stove industry is hoping to bring in more efficient stoves and you can do your bit too by visiting [www.burnright.co.uk](http://www.burnright.co.uk) for information on how to get more from your stove, reduce pollution and best of all save you some money.

"Finally, if you would like to spruce your fireplace or stove yourself or buy products to help you, you can use discount code: ACH001 at [www.valiantfireside.com](http://www.valiantfireside.com) for more savings."

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£3,000	£22,191	5,000*	48 MONTHS	5.75%	5.9%

PAKE EXCHANGE/CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	48 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF	CASH PRICE	AMOUNT OF CREDIT	FEES	GUARANTEED MINIMUM FUTURE VALUE
£1,499**	£249	£20,615	£17,916	NIL	£9,381
FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	ANNUAL MILEAGE	DURATION OF AGREEMENT	FIXED RATE OF INTEREST	REPRESENTATIVE APR FIXED
£1,200*	£23,783	5,000*	48 MONTHS	5.75%	5.9%

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## CAROLE KING'S BEAUTIFUL STORY

PAGE 2

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# Goin' Wild for the Carole King story

**L**ong before she was a chart-topping music legend, Carole King was an ordinary girl with an extraordinary talent. **Beautiful**, which features at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre from Tuesday to June 16, tells the inspiring true story of Carole's remarkable rise to stardom.

It shows her journey from being part of a hit song-writing team with her husband Gerry Goffin, to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to becoming one of the most successful solo acts in popular music history.

Along the way she wrote the soundtrack to a generation, including one of the best-selling albums of all time, *Tapestry*, and countless classics such as (You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman, Take Good Care of My Baby, You've Got a Friend, So Far Away, It Might as Well Rain Until September, Up on the Roof, and The Locomotion.

**Beautiful** – The Carole King Musical will roll into Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre this week and we caught up with leading lady Bronté Barbé to find out what it's like to play the star.

**What are you most enjoying about playing Carole King in the UK tour of *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*?**

The songs! The music is amazing; it's just the best. I haven't played a part like this in my career so far. I also love how everyone in the company on tour with us is so nice; it's a big family feel, which is lovely.

**Have you always wanted to be on stage and had the performing bug?**

Yes absolutely I have. My mum's always performed – she's done a lot of amateur dramatics and my auntie is a singer so it was always in the family. I first started dancing when I was three in baby ballet, and I took dance lessons for years and years but I didn't actually want to be a dancer. In fact I was always singing, and I think my mum told me that I would be in the park and singing *The Little Mermaid* to other kids on the swings! I also used to sing *Titanic* down the phone to my grandma and she used to cry, all that sort of thing! So yes, I've always wanted to perform really. I started doing drama at a young age and doing shows with my mum where I would play the child and things like that. There's nothing else I've wanted to do really, I've been so firm and set on it. The first time I was on stage was when I played the littlest angel in the *Nativity* play at primary school, and I've loved it ever since.

**Were you familiar with Carole King's work prior to joining the show?**

Yeah I was. I've had *Tapestry* for years actually. When I first got a record player I bought it because my Mum said, 'you have to get this album it's amazing', but I didn't realise until listening to it just how many songs that I already knew were actually written by Carole King. Then I saw the show in the West End and realised there are loads and loads of songs I was pleasantly surprised to know, but had no idea were written by her. So many of her songs have filtered into my head without me knowing through the TV or radio.

**Was there something in particular that drew you to the role of Carole King, or do you identify with her at all?**

Totally, she is so determined, particularly as a woman starting out in the time she did, working in the industry she did. She knew what she wanted, so worked hard and went out and got

Beautiful music – Bronté Barbé stars as Carole King



it, which makes her very inspirational. However, she is also a very relatable character I think.

**What is life on the road like? Is there one thing you absolutely couldn't be without?**

My favourite thing in the world is Lush so every town or city we visit I find a Lush because it makes me feel very calm. Most of the time I try and tour with my little dog so that helps. Lots of little things like putting pictures up in my dressing room and having a certain type of tea before the show help me to feel calm and ready to perform. We aren't in each venue for long but it's nice to feel a little bit settled.

**Do you have any particular rituals for pre or post-show?**

I just drink tons and tons of water. I always have an interval orange as well like a football match. I always have one, as it's so good for energy and no matter how I'm feeling I just feel great after an interval orange, it's very helpful.

**Do you have a dream role that you'd love to take on?**

This is absolutely a dream role, being able to play Carole King every

*She worked hard and went out and got it, which makes her inspirational*

night and sing her songs. I would also quite like to be in a period drama. I love to play inspiring women and there aren't that many fully female-led shows out there so playing Carole King is wonderful.

**Carole King is an icon of the singer songwriter world and an idol to many. Do you have any idols that you look up to?**

Oh yeah totally. I would probably say Julie Walters and Victoria Wood. My idols are lots of female comedy geniuses. However, playing Carole King every night is great, she's definitely iconic!

**The tour stops in Wolverhampton, does this venue have any significance for you?**

Wolverhampton is great because I can stay with family which is always lovely.

● For more entertainment news and reviews see **The Ticket** in your Express & Star every Friday.

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CHOICE



Germaine Greer

**Germaine Bloody Greer (BBC2, 9pm)**  
Profile of the writer and academic, whose 1970 book *The Female Eunuch* became an international bestseller and an important part of the feminist movement. The programme features previously unseen archive footage, while interviews with Greer reveal with typical honesty, candour and wit her thoughts on the days when the book was originally published, as well as her opinion on the MeToo movement. Camille Paglia, Zoe Heller and Rosie Boycott are among those sharing their opinions on the influence of *The Female Eunuch*.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **9.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **10.30** Trooping the Colour. **1.05** BBC News: Weather. **1.20** Triathlon: Nottingham Mixed Relay. **2.50** Athletics: Diamond League Oslo Highlights. **3.50** Money for Nothing. (R) **4.50** Escape to the Continent. (R) **5.50** BBC News.  
**6.00** Regional Programme.  
**6.05** **Film: Maleficent.** (2014) A fairy falls in love with an ambitious human nobleman, who betrays her in pursuit of claiming the throne. She swears to get revenge on him by placing a curse on his daughter, only to find herself developing a maternal bond with the girl. Fantasy adventure based on the story of *Sleeping Beauty*, starring Angelina Jolie, Elle Fanning, Sharlto Copley and Imelda Staunton.  
**7.35** **Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman put an "international" spin on their unorthodox quiz show, by inviting famous faces from all over the world to team up. Seeking the least likely correct answers today are American singers Jimmy Osmond and Kym Mazelle, Irish pop duo Jedward, Singapore-born chef Nancy Lam and Australian comedian Sam Simmons, and Argentinean football coach Ossie Ardiles and Spanish sports journalist Guillem Balagué. (R)  
**8.25** **Casualty.** Eddie discovers that Alicia has swapped all her shifts to avoid him, while Bea receives a phone call about her dad and leaves work to pick him up from the police station.  
**9.15** **All Round to Mrs Brown's.** Mrs Brown's Boys creator, writer and star Brendan O'Carroll dons Agnes's famous cardigan and curlers once again, throwing open the doors of the larger-than-life Irish matriarch's home to host a Saturday night chat show, filmed in front of a live studio audience. Inviting friends, family and special guests to join her in the sitting room. Mrs Brown stages mischievous stunts, and gives a few celebrity visitors a piece of her mind.  
**10.15** BBC News: Weather.  
**10.35** **Film: Thor: The Dark World.** (2013) Superhero adventure sequel, with Chris Hemsworth.  
**12.20** The Button. (R) **12.50** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.55** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.25** David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **6.50** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. **7.20** The Pets Factor. **7.40** The Dengineers. **8.10** Absolute Genius Super Tech with Dick & Dom. **8.40** Beyond Bionic. **9.10** Natural Born Winners. (R) **10.10** Astronauts: Do You Have What It Takes? (R) **11.10** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.10** The World Cup: Heroes of '66. **12.45** Wanted Down Under. (R) **1.30** The World According to Kids. (R) **2.30** Second Chance Summer: Tuscany. (R) **3.30** Demolition: The Wrecking Crew. (R) **4.30** Love in the Countryside. (R) **5.30** The River Wye with Will Millard.  
**6.00** **Grammar Schools: Who Will Get In?** Townley Grammar in Bexley, south-east London, is judged to be one of the best schools in the UK, while two miles down the road Erith School, a secondary modern, is striving to pick itself up after an Ofsted report that judged the school to require improvement. Erith's mixed-ability students include some with learning difficulties and others who resent authority. At Townley Grammar, there are far fewer such problems, and the school employs three full-time staff to help students cope with the pressure they put themselves under to keep up with their high-achieving peers. (R)  
**7.00** **Dad's Army.** The platoon is selected to appear in an army training film, but Captain Mainwaring refuses to take part when he finds out his men are to play Nazi soldiers. (R)  
**7.30** **Trooping the Colour Highlights.** The best of the annual pageant, which officially marks the birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II, performed by the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards on Horse Guards Parade. Huw Edwards introduces the highlights, with reports from JJ Chalmers.  
**9.00** **Germaine Bloody Greer.** Profile of the writer and academic, whose 1970 book *The Female Eunuch* became an international bestseller and an important part of the feminist movement.  
**10.00** **Girl's Guide to TV.**  
**10.45** **Later Weekend with Jools Holland.** Extended version of the music programme.  
**11.45** **Film: Made in Dagenham.** (2010) Fact-based comedy drama, starring Sally Hawkins.  
**1.30** This Is BBC Two. **5.55** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R)

ITV

**6.00** CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.30** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.55** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** Star Wars Freemaker Adventures. (R) **7.30** Teen Titans Go! (R) **7.40** Adventure Time. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Saturday. **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.20** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **12.15** The Best of the Voice Worldwide. **1.15** ITV News: Weather. **1.30** Live French Open Tennis. The women's singles final at Roland Garros. **5.00** The Chase. (R)  
**6.00** **ITV News: Weather.**  
**6.15** **Regional Programme: Weather.**  
**6.30** **Ninja Warrior UK.** Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara present the final of the obstacle-course challenge. Competitors from across the nation test their strength, speed and courage, with those who make it to the end of the adrenaline-fuelled mission face one final task – scaling the heights of a tower named Mount Midoriyama – as they battle it out for the title of Ninja Warrior UK. Last in the series.  
**7.30** **Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule.** An unseen edition featuring the host's favourite moments from series two that did not make the final cut. Featuring Johnny Vegas, Jimmy Osmond and Annika Rice. Last in the series.  
**8.00** **Take Me Out: Over 50s Special.** Paddy McGuinness hosts a special episode featuring women over 50, with a retired policeman, a hotelier and a dance teacher taking their turn in the love lift.  
**9.00** **Film: The Hangover.** (2009) Three men on a stag weekend in Las Vegas wake up after a night of heavy drinking and find they have not only misplaced the groom, but somehow gained a tiger and a baby. Unable to remember the details of the night before, they set about piecing the clues together in the hope of finding their missing friend. Comedy, starring Bradley Cooper.  
**10.55** **ITV News: Weather.**  
**11.15** **Play to the Whistle.** (R)  
**12.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** Mr Selfridge. (R) **3.50** **ITV Nightscreen.**

CHANNEL 4

**6.15** Motor Sport: Mini Challenge. **6.45** Volkswagen Racing Cup. **7.10** Marathon: Swansea Half. **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.35** Frasier. (R) **9.10** Frasier. (R) **9.40** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.05** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.35** The Simpsons. (R) **11.05** The Simpsons. (R) **11.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.40** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.15** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.45** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.20** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.50** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.20** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **3.50** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **4.50** Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It. (R) **5.50** Channel 4 News.  
**6.15** **Grand Designs.** Following the work of Ed and Rowena Waghorn as they continue to build a handcrafted, five-bedroom house on an eight acre smallholding in Herefordshire, 10 years in the making. Progress on the build was slow as Ed decided to do most of the work himself, and after four years the house was still a shell. Now, years later, is it possible this house may finally become a medieval masterpiece? (R)  
**7.10** **The World's Wildest Weather.** Footage shot by members of the public of unusual and dangerous weather from around the world, including Alpine avalanches and cyclones in the South Pacific. The programme features first-hand accounts of the events featured and scientific analysis of the footage and how the strange weather conditions came about. (R)  
**8.10** **Live International Rugby Union.** Argentina v Wales (Kick-off 8.40pm). Lee McKenzie presents coverage of the first of two Tests, which takes place at the Estadio yan Juan del Bicentenario. Wales have won five of the last six meetings between the nations, but all of those matches were in Cardiff, and Argentina won both contests when the Welsh last visited South America in 2006. With commentary by Eddie Butler and Martyn Williams, and analysis from Ugo Monye, Shane Williams and Thinus Delport.  
**10.55** **Formula 1: Canadian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights.**  
**12.25** **Film: The Watch.** (2012) **2.10** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.20** My Kitchen Rules. (R) **5.15** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **5.20** Fifteen to One. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.10** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.45** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.25** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R) **3.20** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R) **4.15** Rich House, Poor House: The Big Surprise. (R) **5.15** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R)  
**6.10** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** Agents try to evict a woman who owes £5,000 in unpaid rent, and meet a man who says he cannot pay a £7,000 debt, despite having a garage full of expensive tools. (R)  
**7.00** **Building the London Underground.** The technologies that have helped make the Tube the second-biggest metro system in the world, from tunnel-boring methods to building vast subterranean stations. (R)  
**7.55** **5 News Weekend.**  
**8.00** **Secrets of the Valley of the Kings.** An exploration of the Valley of the Kings, the royal necropolis of the pharaohs and the world's most famous royal burial ground. Egyptologists investigate what drove Egypt's greatest pharaohs to seek out this secluded valley to hide their remains, how ancient craftsmen managed to achieve such feats of engineering and keep pace with the ever-shifting designs, and why was the sacred site was finally abandoned. Narrated by Mark Halliley. (R)  
**9.00** **Secrets of Tutankhamun's Treasures.** Items found in Tutankhamun's tomb that paint a picture of his family, including mummified babies – the offspring of an incestuous relationship with his sister.  
**10.00** **Alexander the Great's Lost Tomb.** The search for the lost tomb of Alexander the Great, the Macedonian warlord, which has eluded experts for nearly 2,000 years. Archaeologist Dr Nick Saunders follows the clues.  
**11.05** **The Ten Plagues of Egypt: Ancient Mysteries.** How ash from a volcanic eruption may have triggered a deadly domino effect, turning the Nile red and making its waters toxic and explaining the biblical tale of the 10 plagues. (R)  
**12.05** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Yorkshire Vet. (R) **4.00** Secrets of the Chocolate Factory: Inside Cadbury. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** The Burrowers: Animals Underground **8.00** Patagonia: Earth's Secret Paradise **9.00** Hidden **10.00** The League of Gentlemen **11.00** Top of the Pops: 1985 **12.00** Big in America: British Hits in the USA **1.00** Patagonia: Earth's Secret Paradise **2.00** I Was There: Kate Adie on Tiananmen Square **3.00** How to Get Ahead: At Versailles **4.00** Close  
**ITV2**  
**12.05** Celebrity Catchphrase **1.05** Funniest Ever You've Been Framed! Gold **2.10** **Film:** Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **3.10** FYI Daily **3.15** **Film:** Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **4.20** **Film:** The Smurfs (2011) **5.20** FYI Daily **5.25** **Film:** The Smurfs (2011) **6.25** **Film:** Battleship (2012) **7.25** FYI Daily **7.30** **Film:** Battleship (2012) **9.00** Love Island: The Weekly Hot List **10.05** Celebrity Juice **10.50** Family Guy **12.15** American Dad! **1.10** Celebrity Juice: Just the Tip **2.10** Total Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** **ITV2** Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**1.05** A Touch of Frost **3.00** **Film:** Columbo Undercover (1994) **5.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **7.00** Lewis **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** A Touch of Frost **1.05** On the Buses **2.05** **ITV3** Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping  
**ITV4**  
**11.30** Football's Foreign Legion **12.30** Storage Wars: Texas **1.30** **ITV** Racing Live from Haydock. Coverage from Haydock Park, Musselburgh and Newmarket. **4.20** Storage Wars **4.50** Live French Open Tennis. The men's doubles final at Roland Garros. **7.00** Isle of Man TT **10.00** Cycling: Criterium du Dauphine Highlights **11.00** **Film:** The Departed (2006) **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10** **Film:** The Departed (2006) **2.00** Minder **3.00** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**11.30** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **11.45** The Goldbergs **1.45** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.15** Young Sheldon **2.40** The Big Bang Theory **7.15** **Film:** The Hunger Games (2012) **10.00** **Film:** I, Frankenstein (2014) **11.50** Gogglebox **2.00** Tattoo Fixers **3.00** Rude Tube **4.20** Rude(ish) Tube **4.45** How I Met Your Mother **Film4**  
**11.00** Fletch (1985) **1.00** The Rewrite (2014) **3.10** Hotel for Dogs (2009) **5.10** Carry On Jack (1963) **6.55** Last Vegas (2013) **9.00** The Monuments Men (2014) **11.20** An American Werewolf in London (1981) **1.15** Boy (2010) **3.05** Close

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CHOICE



Eleanor Tomlinson & Josh Whitehouse

**Poldark (BBC1, 9pm)**  
New series. The period drama returns for a fourth series, which sees the country plunged into uncertainty when the prime minister calls an election. George Warleggan's reign as member for Truro has had a devastating impact on the city, and Hugh is determined to displace him. Rioting erupts on the streets, which results in Zacky's son and the Carnes brothers being accused of murder, while Ross is helpless to intervene. The Enyses consider having a child, and Demelza seeks to reconcile two rival local lords. Period drama, starring Aidan Turner, Eleanor Tomlinson, Christian Brassington, Ellise Chappell, Beatie Edney, Jack Farthing, Luke Norris, Heida Reed and Harry Richardson.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** BBC News; Weather. **12.30** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** Points of View. **1.15** Lifetime. **1.25** Songs of Praise. **2.00** Britain Celebrates Live: 100 Years of Women's Votes. **4.00** Who Do You Think You Are? (R) **5.00** Britain's Best Home Cook. (R)  
**6.00** **Wallace & Gromit: A Close Shave.** Nick Park's animated characters embark on their third adventure, which sees Wallace fall in love and Gromit framed for sheep rustling. With the voices of Peter Sallis and Anne Reid. (R)  
**6.30** **BBC News.**  
**6.45** **Regional Programme.**  
**7.00** **Countryfile.** The last of three royal specials from the Sandringham estate, where the first ever Christmas broadcast was recorded. Matt Baker meets the head gardener to discover how the trees are shaped to look their best in winter, Adam Henson delves into the history of blackcurrant harvesting, and Ellie Harrison joins the head gamekeeper in a tour of the estate's various wildlife habitats.  
**8.00** **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents a special episode from the Houses of Parliament celebrating the 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote, examining artefacts connected to remarkable women throughout British history, including leading suffragist Millicent Fawcett, photographer Christina Broom, secret agent Violette Szabo, gymnast Florence Atwood and polar explorers Ann Daniels and Caroline Hamilton.  
**9.00** **Poldark.** New series. The country is plunged into uncertainty during an election, and a riot erupts in Truro – leaving Zacky's son accused of murder, while Ross is helpless to intervene.  
**10.00** **BBC News.**  
**10.20** **Regional Programme.**  
**10.30** **Our Friend Victoria.** (R)  
**11.00** **Suffragettes with Lucy Worsley.** The historian examines the battle that women had to wage for the right to vote, following the stories of young working class suffragettes who rebelled against Edwardian society. (R)  
**12.30** Weather for the Week Ahead.  
**12.35** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.40** Gardeners' World. (R) **7.40** Countryfile. (R) **8.35** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.05** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.35** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **11.20** Harry Bikers' Best of British. (R) **12.20** The World Cup: Hopes of a Nation. **1.00** Triathlon: World Series – Leeds. The ITU World Series meeting from Leeds.  
**6.00** **Dragons' Den.** Jenny Campbell, Peter Jones, Tej Lalvani, Deborah Meaden and Touker Suleyman assess the profit-making potential of more business plans, including a range of story books intended to help children learn other languages, skin care products made out of hemp, and a solution to pain caused by halter neck straps. (R)  
**7.00** **Million Pound Menu.** Fred Sirieix presents the fine dining challenge which follows people who work in the food business as they seek major investment to launch their own restaurants. (R)  
**8.00** **Journey in the Danger Zone: Iraq.** Part two of two. Adnan Sarwar joins a party of pilgrims on a journey to the Holy Shrines of Kerbala, and visits one of several visitor cities built to house the thousands who come to the sacred site each year. He then moves on to Fallujah, where he visits a school for children with hearing and speech disabilities, and goes behind the scenes on a controversial TV show in which prisoners are made to apologise for their crimes on air.  
**9.00** **Frankie Goes to Russia.** Part two of two.  
**10.00** **Atlanta.** Paper Boi becomes the hip hop world's poster-child for toxic masculinity and transphobia after he makes some offensive Tweets about Caitlyn Jenner, and ends up on a talk show.  
**10.20** **Atlanta.** Paper Boi secures a gig playing a club, but neither he nor Earn are keen on the prospect, especially when they fall foul of a ruthless promoter unwilling to pay his dues.  
**10.50** **Girl's Guide to TV.** (R)  
**11.35** **Athletics: Diamond League Stockholm Highlights.** The Bauhaus-Galan. Action from the sixth Diamond League event of the season, which was held at Stockholm Olympic Stadium.  
**12.35** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R)  
**1.35** Holby City. (R)

ITV

**6.00** CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.30** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** Star Wars Freemaker Adventures. (R) **7.30** The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball On Sunday. **9.25** The Queen's Coronation in Colour. (R) **10.20** How to Spend It Well: House and Garden with Phillip Schofield. (R) **11.20** The Best of the Voice Worldwide. **12.20** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** Ninja Warrior UK. (R) **1.30** Live French Open Tennis. The men's singles final at Roland Garros. **5.30** Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule. (R)  
**6.00** **ITV News; Weather.**  
**6.15** **Regional Programme; Weather.**  
**6.30** **Soccer Aid for UNICEF 2018.** England v World XI (Kick-off 8.00pm). Kirsty Gallacher and Dermot O'Leary host live coverage of the annual football match between teams of celebrities and professional athletes to raise money for children's charity Unicef. The game is played at Manchester United's Old Trafford Stadium, with England captain Robbie Williams taking on a team led by Usain Bolt. Among the players are Mo'Nique, Gordon Ramsay, Olly Murs, and Eric Cantona, returning to his former home turf. Featuring live music from Jessie Ware. Subsequent programmes subject to change.  
**10.00** **ITV News; Weather.**  
**10.20** **Heathrow: Britain's Busiest Airport.** The Border Force pull over a Ghanaian businessman declaring £114,000 in cash. A blind date takes place in the airport. (R)  
**10.50** **Football's Foreign Legion.** Forty years on from the first wave of foreign footballers, this is the story of those pioneering players and their legacy.  
**11.50** **Great Art.** Tim Marlow reflects on the American Impressionist movement, which was inspired by great French masters including Claude Monet. Narrated by Gillian Anderson. Last in the series. (R)  
**12.45** **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.  
**3.00** **Motorsport UK.** Action from Donington Park. (R) **3.50** **ITV** Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

CHANNEL 4

**6.15** The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Eat the Week. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Bake Off: The Professionals. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** The Simpsons. (R) **2.30** Film: Volcano. (1997) Disaster thriller, starring Tommy Lee Jones. **4.35** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.35** Bang on Budget.  
**6.30** **Channel 4 News.**  
**7.30** **Escape to the Chateau.** Dick and Angel look ahead to wedding season, with eight couples booking the chateau for their big day. Dick also converts a stone barn into a flat for Angel's parents, getting rid of 150 years' worth of rubbish in the process, but tensions rise between the couple when he gets carried away with the trees at the front of the property. Last in the series. (R)  
**8.00** **Bake Off: The Professionals.** Liam Charles and Tom Allen put the remaining teams to the test with a secret recipe challenge, then gives them a chance to impress judges Cherish Finden and Benoit Blin with their showmanship by making a chocolate showpiece inspired by the theme of the four seasons.  
**9.00** **The Handmaid's Tale.** A baby shower provokes a troubling shift in Offred's relationship with Serena Joy, and prompts her to reckon with the choice she made that led her to become a Handmaid.  
**10.10** **8 Out of 10 Cats.** Aisling Bea is joined by Joel Dommett and James Acaster, while Rob Beckett teams up with Joe Swash and Roisin Conaty to discuss memorable moments from school. Jimmy Carr hosts. (R)  
**10.40** **Formula 1: Canadian Grand Prix Highlights.** Action from the seventh round of the season at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve in Montreal. Lewis Hamilton was looking for a fourth successive victory in this race and seventh overall.  
**12.40** **Film: The Man with the Iron Fists.** (2012) Martial arts adventure, starring RZA. **2.15** Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners. (R) **3.10** Building the Dream. (R) **4.05** My Kitchen Rules. (R) **5.00** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **5.05** Cheap Cheap Cheap. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.40** Mofy. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Only the Little White Van. (R) **7.00** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.35** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.50** Rusty Rivets. (R) **8.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.20** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.35** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.55** Floogals. (R) **9.05** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.20** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.40** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.10** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.45** Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. (R) **11.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.05** Film: Holes. (2003) Family adventure, starring Shia LaBeouf. **3.05** Access. **3.10** Film: Holes. (2003) Concluded. **4.30** FIA Formula E Live. The Zurich ePrix.  
**6.15** **World's Scariest Animal Attacks** 2. Terrifying animal encounters caught on camera, including the moment sharks turned on a free-diving father and son, and a 500lb elephant seal that reacted violently when intimidated. (R)  
**7.00** **Cricknet on 5.** Scotland v England.  
**7.55** **5 News Weekend.**  
**8.00** **The Yorkshire Steam Railway: All Aboard.** A look at the North Yorkshire Moors Railway, following the lives of some of the workers who keep the wheels turning and the passengers happy on one of the world's most popular steam lines. To pull in the punters in, star engine Royal Scot is hired to headline for a week and for general manager Chris it's an expensive gamble as this big and powerful engine was designed to thunder on mainline rails, while the heritage railway has much smaller platforms and bridges. Until Royal Scot arrives and goes through a gauging run on the line, they won't know if she will actually fit the railway. (R)  
**9.00** **The Yorkshire Steam Railway: All Aboard.** The start of the Easter timetable at the North Yorkshire Moors Railway finds marketing manager Laura devising a stunt to capitalise on the Tour de Yorkshire cycling race. (R)  
**10.00** **Top of the Box 1978 with Matthew Kelly.** Last in the series.  
**12.05** The Best of Bad TV: The 70s. (R) **1.55** SuperCasino.

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Locomotion: Dan Snow's History of Railways **8.00** Timeshift: The Golden Age of Coach Travel **9.00** Swallowed by the Sea – Ancient Egypt's Greatest Lost City **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Horizon: Cosmic Dawn – The Real Moment of Creation **11.30** Civilisations Stories: King Coal **12.00** Ego: The Strange and Wonderful World of Self-Portraits **1.30** Locomotion: Dan Snow's History of Railways **2.30** Swallowed by the Sea – Ancient Egypt's Greatest Lost City **3.30** Close  
**ITV2**  
**12.20** Take Me Out **1.35** Film: The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (2000) **2.40** FYI Daily **2.45** Film: The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (2000) **3.20** Film: Hotel Transylvania (2012) **4.25** FYI Daily **4.30** Film: Hotel Transylvania (2012) **5.10** Film: Despicable Me 2 (2013) **6.10** FYI Daily **6.15** Film: Despicable Me 2 (2013) **7.05** Film: Legally Blonde (2001) **8.05** FYI Daily **8.10** Film: Legally Blonde (2001) **9.00** Love Island **10.00** Love Island: Afternoon **11.05** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **1.25** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**12.55** A Touch of Frost **3.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **5.00** Vera **9.00** Unforgotten **11.00** Wire in the Blood **1.00** Blue Murder **2.20** Liverpool 1 **3.20** Road to Avonlea **5.05** George and Mildred  
**ITV4**  
**11.15** Live British Touring Car Championship. Round four from Oulton Park. **6.00** Snooker v Darts **6.10** The Chase Celebrity Special **7.15** River Monsters **8.15** Film: Jackie Chan's First Strike (1996) **9.15** FYI Daily **9.20** Film: Jackie Chan's First Strike (1996) **10.00** Cycling: Critérium du Dauphiné Highlights **11.00** Film: Death Wish 2 (1981) **12.00** FYI Daily **12.05** Film: Death Wish 2 (1981) **12.50** Fifth Gear  
**E4**  
**12.20** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **12.50** Young Sheldon **1.20** The Big Bang Theory **6.20** Film: Hulk (2003) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Gogglebox **11.00** Gogglebox Australia **12.05** The Big Bang Theory  
**Film4**  
**11.00** The Ladykillers (1955) **1.00** Rugrats Go Wild (2003) **2.40** Dr Seuss' The Lorax (2012) **4.20** The Longest Ride (2015) **6.50** Crocodile Dundee II (1988) **9.00** The Bourne Legacy (2012) **11.40** Starred Up (2013) **1.50** Summer in February (2013) **4.00** Close

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## FILM CHOICES

### MONDAY

#### Cry for Justice, Channel 5, 3.15pm

When her son is falsely accused of murder, Jackie fights against the odds to free him. While he languishes in prison while the prosecution seeks a life sentence, their lives are sent on differing paths of wavering faith and tentative hope. Drama, based on a true story, starring Francine Locke and Drew Matthews. (2013)

### TUESDAY

#### The Wrong Daughter, Channel 5, 3.15pm

Couple Kate and Joe, who have longed to be parents together, are delighted when Danica, a child Kate gave up 17 years ago, comes to stay. Thriller, starring Cindy Busby, Jon Prescott and Sierra Pond. (2018)

### WEDNESDAY

#### Strangers in Amish Country, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A military nurse returns from a tour of duty in Afghanistan to her family's farm in rural Ohio, and falls for an Amish neighbour after an intruder wreaks havoc. Romantic drama, starring Jes Macallan, Sean Faris and Kelly McGillis. (2017)



The Wolf of Wall Street, Friday, Channel 4, 11.40pm

### THURSDAY

#### Lethal Admirer, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman moves across the country to rebuild her life after the tragic death of her boyfriend. She is pleasantly surprised to run into an old colleague and the two become firm friends, but things soon take a turn for the worse when he sets out to win her heart - by any means necessary. Thriller, starring Karissa Lee Staples, Drew Seeley and Brian Ames. (2018)

### FRIDAY

#### The Wolf of Wall Street, Channel 4, 11.40pm

A New York stockbroker rises from unemployment to become one of the richest men in the city's financial elite through an illegal scheme to defraud investors. His wealth brings him an outrageously debauched lifestyle, but comes at a price as the FBI become suspicious of his manipulation of the markets. Martin Scorsese's fact-based drama, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Matthew McConaughey. (2013)

# Georgie finds herself in the firing line once again

The new series of military drama Our Girl began last week, but it seems that star Michelle Keegan is still getting over the events of the previous run.

That's when her on-screen fiancée Elvis Harte (Luke Pasquillano) was killed in an explosion, leaving her character Georgie Lane heartbroken.

Keegan says that Georgie will continue to grieve for him throughout the series: "She's had six months out for compassionate leave and is now throwing herself into work. She's definitely not over Elvis at all and you'll see throughout the episodes that his death has really affected her."

It's also been a tough time for the actress. She says: "It was really, really strange. Luke and I started on the series at the same time together and it was so odd when he left. It was like a hole and I definitely missed him."

"We literally started the next episode the day after Elvis died. Luke left on a Thursday and on a

Friday we started to film episode five. It took a long time for me to adjust as all our storylines were always based around Georgie and Elvis and the 'will they, won't they' situation."

At least the actress, who first found fame as feisty Tina on Coronation Street, can take some comfort in the fact that she wasn't the only one affected by the storyline - Our Girl fans were also devastated by Elvis's death.

She says: "I was in Malaysia at the time and it was 6am when it aired in the UK. I looked at my phone and it had gone crazy."

"What was great was that it hadn't been released that Elvis was going to get killed so it was obviously a massive shock for the audience who follow the story. I just remember that all the women's hearts on Twitter were broken that night."

However, in this second episode, Georgie may not get too much time to dwell on Elvis, as she meets undercover Special Forces

operative, Bones (Oliver Rix) - and he doesn't make the best first impression.

Keegan explains: "They get off to a rocky start as Georgie sees him in Nigeria where he throws a child out of his way. But obviously goodie two shoes Georgie won't stand for that and ends up confronting him."

She adds: "You soon see that he is the Head of Special Forces and has taken over Elvis' role but he is totally different. He's very angry all the time, very old school and isn't emotionally led, he also hasn't got a friendship with Captain James. However, you see him and 2 Section build a relationship which is really exciting."

And there's even more drama, as 2-Section try to trade the detained son of a rebel leader for an imprisoned Nigerian military medic, unaware their captors are setting a trap. It leads to a tense stand-off, but will everyone make it out alive this time, or is Keegan going to have to deal with more early morning messages from fans?



Michelle Keegan stars in Our Girl, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

# BEST OF THE REST

### MONDAY

#### Flowers

##### Channel 4, 10pm

The critically acclaimed comedy drama is back for a second series - and like the first run, it's showing across consecutive evenings, which makes it even easier to be drawn into its dark and imaginative world. For those who missed the original series, it followed depressed children's book author Maurice (Julian Barratt), his well-meaning wife Deborah (Olivia Colman) and their maladjusted adult twin children Amy (Sophia Di Martino) and Donald (Daniel Rigby). The opening double bill picks up the action a few years later, and it seems that Maurice is now doing better and Deborah has become a writer herself by penning a book about her husband's illness. But the clan still has its eccentricities - for a start, Amy has taken up with Hylda (Harriet Walter), an unconventional priest and former addict.

### TUESDAY

#### The Martin Lewis Money Show Live

##### ITV, 8pm

According to a survey a few years ago, Martin Lewis was the most Googled British man. And the financial journalist's popularity and usefulness shows no signs of waning just yet as he returns for

a live summer special from Warwick Castle. The programme features money-saving tips aiming to help consumers cope with the season's current economic climate. Plus, as this is a summer special, there is bound to be tips for viewers hoping to get the most out of their Euros, Dollars and Zloty, as well as a clarification of data roaming charges, and suggestions if your flight gets delayed. As usual, Martin is keen for everyone to join in, so whether you have a query on travel insurance, car hire or currency, have your questions at the ready.

### WEDNESDAY

#### The Fast Fix: Diabetes

##### ITV, 9pm

There was a time when it was thought that Type 2 diabetes was a medical life sentence, but as viewers of The One Show will have seen recently, that's not the case. In the first of a two-part strand, Anita Rani examines how people with the condition attempt to reverse it by living on a radical liquid diet. It could potentially save their lives and the NHS billions of pounds. Here cameras follow five overweight patients as they move into an experimental

diabetes reversal unit. There they live on a diet of just 800 calories a day for four weeks. They attempt to shed more than two stones, hopefully improve their lives, and no doubt offer a large dose of hope for viewers in a similar situation.

### FIFA World Cup 2018 Preview

#### BBC1, 10.45pm

Gary Lineker is joined by Alan Shearer and Jermaine Jenas to look ahead to the tournament in Russia, assessing the chances of the leading contenders in the 21st staging of the finals. The chances of England, the only home nation to qualify this time around, are assessed, while the trio offer their thoughts on which nations have the greatest chance of glory, and which players are likely to shine. Germany were victorious four years ago in Brazil and are among the leading contenders.



The Martin Lewis Money Show Live, Tuesday, ITV, 8pm

### THURSDAY

#### FIFA World Cup 2018

##### ITV, 3.45pm

Russia v Saudi Arabia (Kick-off 4.00pm). Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the Group A match, the opening game of the tournament, which takes place at Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow. This is only Russia's third appearance in a World Cup this century after failing to qualify for the tournaments in 2006 and 2010. Their last effort in 2014 saw them fail to get out of the group stage, drawing two games and losing one, but as hosts they'll be expecting to go much further this time around. This afternoon will see them face Saudi Arabia for the first time since October 1993, when they lost 4-2 in Riyadh in a friendly match. Juan Antonio Pizzi's side are playing in only their fifth World Cup and will be looking to at least match their previous best finish, which saw them reach the last 16 at the 1994 tournament in the USA.

### FRIDAY

#### The Crystal Maze: Celebrity Special

##### Channel 4, 9pm

Richard Ayoade presides as Dennis Wise, Roman Kemp, Binky Felstead, Bez and Katie Price compete around the four zones, tackling various challenges to win crystals.



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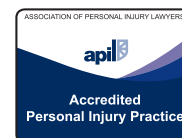
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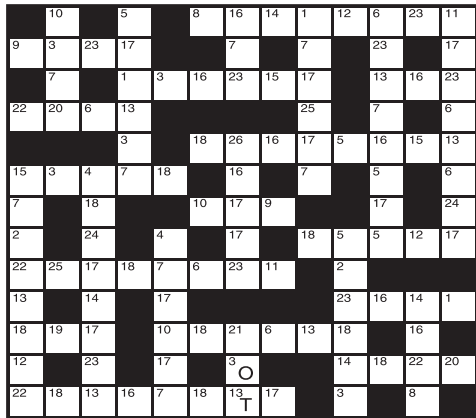


## BRAIN GYM

No.483

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
E	I	P	R	F	K	N	Z	Y	M	S	O	Q
T	X	B	C	L	G	D	A	J	U	V	H	W

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

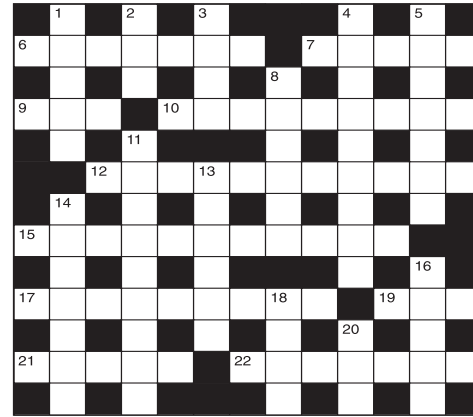
## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

6. Race movement begins under his orders (7)  
 7. Each one always yawns initially (5)  
 9. The last of the screen dramas (3)  
 10. Fruit used in mimicking on stage (9)  
 12. Shows off mannequin - racing type, perhaps (6,5)  
 15. Like a heavenly show? (4-7)  
 17. Cavil about being unpunctual, but waver (9)  
 19. Be prostrate as story? (3)  
 21. Started, for example, in prohibition (5)  
 22. Obligatory process in book production (7)

## Down

1. Candidates do so before they can sit (5)  
 2. Vessel seen in colour, no doubt (3)  
 3. Retain part of the castle (4)  
 4. Subdue because of strength? (9)  
 5. He can't do without glasses (7)  
 8. Learner relieved - it's on hire (6)  
 11. Airs appraisal in estimation of value (9)  
 13. Plaything under which there could be a snake (6)  
 14. In which cooking may be done at sea? (7)  
 16. They have their pride, of course (5)  
 18. Stumble on excursion? (4)  
 20. Strange ring worn by theologian (3)



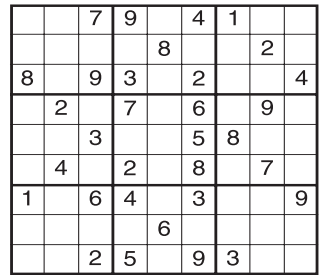
## Across

6. Lawfully (7)  
 7. Polite (5)  
 9. Twisted (3)  
 10. Consequent (9)  
 12. Chance (11)  
 15. Despondent (11)  
 17. Impassiveness (9)  
 19. Pledge (3)  
 21. Brag (5)  
 22. Chief (7)

## Down

1. Memorise (5)  
 2. Manner (3)  
 3. Merriment (4)  
 4. Spirit-maker (9)  
 5. Stateliness (7)  
 8. Figure (6)  
 11. Innumerable (9)  
 13. Nimble (6)  
 14. Manage (7)  
 16. Ascend (5)  
 18. Pour (4)  
 20. Append (3)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS &gt;

3	7	2	5	4	9	6	1	8
6	8	1	7	3	2	9	5	4
9	5	4	1	6	8	2	7	3
2	3	9	6	5	1	8	4	7
1	6	5	8	7	4	3	2	9
7	4	8	2	9	3	5	6	1
8	1	6	3	2	7	4	9	5
4	2	7	9	8	5	1	3	6
5	9	3	4	1	6	7	8	2

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:  
 CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Shooting stars; 8 Greenfly; 9 Tilt; 10 Corset; 12 Ordeal; 14 Ashore; 16 Keenly; 18 Miss; 20 Tenacity; 22 Covered market. Down: 1 Cheroots; 2 Lovers; 3 Tiff; 4 Ugly look; 5 Stated; 6 Oral; 11 Twenties; 13 Axle-tree; 15 Ousted; 17 Errors; 19 Iron; 21 Memo.  
 QUICK - Across: 7 Conscientious; 8 Assessor; 9 Omen; 10 Bitter; 12 Nature; 14 Defect; 16 Enigma; 18 Shut; 20 Friendly; 22 Uninteresting. Down: 1 Conspire; 2 Assert; 3 Wits; 4 Entrance; 5 Fit out; 6 Lure; 11 Ratified; 13 Rambling; 15 Extent; 17 Ignite; 19 Hang; 21 Idea.

## Quiz

- On which river does Ipswich lie?
- With which art form is Pina Bausch connected?
- Which European capital is divided by the Attila line?
- In biology, what do two gametes merge to form?
- What is the biggest British vessel ever lost at sea?
- To which English king was Hans Holbein the Younger court painter?
- After which battle is the East Sussex town Battle named?
- Who played James Bond in The World Is Not Enough?
- Of what is the morel a type?
- Which sea lies between Italy and Greece?

## Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 P.W. Botha; 2 Asthma; 3 Iris; 4 Grouse; 5 Irene; 6 St. Trinian's; 7 George Fox; 8 1086; 9 Unification Church; 10 Aled Jones.

## Niner: MERCHANTS

## Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

624789  
 47335  
 35319

gives a religious person,  
 gives a religious person,  
 gives a religious text.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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# PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY  
GUIDE TO HOME  
BUYING AND  
LETTING

## Detached barn conversion enjoys countryside views

Set in a superb location and having open views over fields to the rear, this stunning semi-detached barn conversion in Wolverhampton Road, Shreshill, called The Granary, is for sale through Paul Carr Estate Agents at £325,000.

This residence would make an ideal family home and an early viewing is highly recommended. This home has an immaculate, contemporary interior.

Having central heating and double glazing, the accommodation includes a welcoming entrance hall with a guest WC off, a spacious lounge/dining room with a log burner, a superb kitchen/family room with a range of wall and base units with granite work-surfaces over, an integrated dishwasher, log burner and a useful laundry room. To the first floor there are three bedrooms and a well-equipped bathroom.

Outside there is a low maintenance garden to the front with a paved seating area, off-road parking and a garage in a separate block.

In more detail there is ample off-road parking space to the front, thanks to a full width driveway, flanked by the stone slatted patio seating area and a small lawn and shrub borders.

The lounge is spacious, having the log burner on a high gloss plinth. The dining area is again spacious with neutral decor. Both areas are linked, sharing ceiling beams and ceiling spotlights.

The kitchen has white, contemporary units with chrome handles, attractive black granite working surfaces, neutral decor and a ceiling beam.

The family room area is again very attractive, featuring the same flooring.

Upstairs, the family bathroom is again an impressive space, featuring a contemporary three-piece suite in white, with fitted furniture, a wash hand basin and high gloss floor tiling, modern tiling to the walls and another feature beam. It also has a separate contemporary shower cubicle.

SHRESHILL £325,000

### TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Paul Carr Estate Agents

TEL: 01922 701001

EMAIL: [greatwyrley@paulcarrestateagents.co.uk](mailto:greatwyrley@paulcarrestateagents.co.uk)



### KEY FEATURES

Stunning barn conversion

Semi-detached

3 bedrooms

Lounge/dining room with log burner

Superb kitchen/family room



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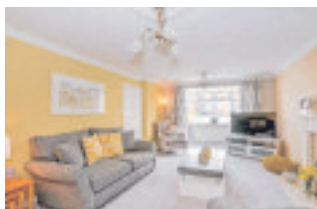


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- Re Fitted Kitchen
- Utility, Gues W.C.
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- Two En-Suites

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## PROPERTY



### Six-bedroom property benefits from fantastic plot

**A stunning and spacious six-bedroomed three-storey family home with a delightful walled garden and orangery in Thistle Drive, Cannock, is for sale through Marwood Homes at £290,000.**

Situated on a fantastic plot of this sought-after development, its accommodation briefly comprises a lounge, kitchen/diner, orangery, six bedrooms, two with en-suites, plus the family bathroom.

Externally the property has landscaped gardens and a garage.

**CANNOCK**  
**£290,000**

In more detail the entrance hall has stairs off and a storage cupboard underneath. The guest WC is positioned to the rear.

The lounge has French doors to the rear garden. The kitchen/diner has French doors to the garden, an integrated oven, hob with an extractor hood over, integral

dishwasher and ample appliance space. The orangery is a beautiful additional reception room with bi-fold doors to one side and windows to the other, ceiling spot lighting and a glass roof.

On the first floor is a bathroom and bedrooms three, four and five.

Off the second floor landing is the master bedroom en-suite, bedroom two en-suite and bed

Contact Marwood Homes on 01543 500700.



## AUCTION

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196 Bradbury Lane, Hednesford	9.45am	9.45am
21 Balmoral Drive, Hednesford	10.15am	10.15am
30 Old Fallow Road, Cannock	10.45am	10.45am
31 Old Penkridge Road, Cannock	11.30am	11.30am
20 Norton Green Lane, Norton Canes	11.45pm	11.45pm
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  - ◆ Double glazed
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**GUIDE PRICE £120,000**



#### LOT 5

- 196 BRADBURY LANE, HEDNESFORD, WS12 4EP**  
**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**
- ◆ Three bedroom semi detached house
  - ◆ In need of refurbishment
  - ◆ Gas central heating
  - ◆ Fully double glazed
  - ◆ Ideal buy to let
  - ◆ EPC rating D (65)

**GUIDE PRICE £55,000+**



#### LOT 2

**30 OLD FALLOW ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 5QJ**

**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**

- ◆ Detached bungalow
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating E (53)

**GUIDE PRICE £125,000**



#### LOT 6

- FLAT 3 GROSVENOR COURT, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 1BA**  
**LEASEHOLD INVESTMENT PRODUCING £5,160 P.A.**
- ◆ Well presented ground floor flat
  - ◆ Convenient for town centre
  - ◆ Viewing recommended
  - ◆ Fully double glazed
  - ◆ EPC rating C (76)

**GUIDE PRICE £60,000+**



#### LOT 7

- 18 COPPICE ROAD, PEAR TREE ESTATE, RUGELEY, WS15 1LN**  
**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**
- ◆ A good size semi detached house
  - ◆ Requiring some repair and modernisation
  - ◆ Convenient for neighbourhood shops
  - ◆ EPC rating tbc

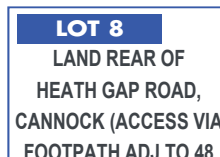
**GUIDE PRICE £70,000+**



#### LOT 3

- 31 OLD PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 1HX**  
**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**
- ◆ End terraced house
  - ◆ Two bedrooms
  - ◆ In need of refurbishment
  - ◆ Sought after area close to town centre
  - ◆ EPC rating G (7)

**GUIDE PRICE £120,000+**



#### LOT 8

- LAND REAR OF HEATH GAP ROAD, CANNOCK (ACCESS VIA FOOTPATH ADJ TO 48 HARDIE AVENUE)**  
**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**
- ◆ Parcel of freehold land extending to 0.228 acres or thereabouts

**GUIDE PRICE £10,000+**



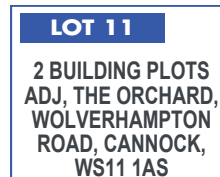
#### LOT 10

- BUILDING LAND FRONTING KILMORE ROAD (REAR OF 1 NIRVANA CLOSE) CANNOCK, WS11 1HT**  
**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**
- ◆ Individual building plot with planning permission
  - ◆ Located in prime residential area of the town
  - ◆ For individually designed four bedroom detached house
  - ◆ Ripe for immediate development

**GUIDE PRICE £180,000+**

**THE ORCHARD, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 1AS**

**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**



#### LOT 11

- 2 BUILDING PLOTS ADJ, THE ORCHARD, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 1AS**  
**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**
- ◆ Two generous building plots
  - ◆ Convenient for town centre
  - ◆ Secluded location
  - ◆ Site area 0.14 hectares (0.33 acres) or thereabouts
  - ◆ OPP for two 4 bed detached houses

**GUIDE PRICE £180,000+**



#### LOT 12

- FREEHOLD BUILDING PLOT, LAND REAR OF RICKERSCOTE AVENUE, STAFFORD, ST17 4EZ**  
**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**
- ◆ Good sized building plot in popular residential area with Planning Permission for one 4 bedroom detached house
  - ◆ Stafford Borough Council 08/09667/FUL

**GUIDE PRICE £70,000+**





## Well-presented four-bedroomed detached property

An impressive detached residence in Station Road, Great Wyrley, lies in a popular residential location and has immaculate, contemporary interiors.

It is for sale through Paul Carr Estate Agents at offers in excess of £335,000.

Having a good-sized garden and driveway parking, its accommodation briefly comprises a

**GREAT WYRLEY**  
**£350,000**

porch, entrance hallway, a lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility room, a ground floor bedroom, en-suite shower room, a guest WC, four first floor bedrooms, a bathroom and a separate WC.

Ideally located for local amenities, schools and transport links and having immaculate, contemporary interiors, this impressive detached residence would ideally suit a growing family and internal viewing is highly recommended. The light and spacious lounge has an open fireplace and double doors to the separate dining room.

Call Paul Carr on 01922 701001.



## Luxuriously appointed cottage has been extended

The Cottage, 146 Hatherton Road, Cannock, is a luxuriously appointed 19th century cottage with individual architect-designed extensions.

Having flexible characterful accommodation, it is for sale through Boot & Son at £460,000: Freehold. The property occupies a corner plot in the much sought-after Shoal Hill

**CANNOCK**  
**£460,000**

area. It has an entrance hall, a central lounge, a family room/bedroom four, two further bedrooms, a master bedroom, en-suite shower room, a study, a re-fitted family bathroom, a re-fitted dining kitchen, an integral

double garage, an orangery, a snug, a landing, double glazing, gas central heating and corner plot gardens.

The lounge has decorative painted pine panelling, part ceramic tiled floor, a brick fireplace with an oak mantle and a log burner style gas fire.

Contact 01543 505454.

**flint & co**  
flintandco.com 01543 624400



**SHOAL HILL**  
**SANDY LANE**



**NEW**  
• A spacious 4 bedroom detached  
• 4 reception rooms  
• Kitchen, utility room  
• Conservatory, guest cloakroom  
• Master bedroom with ensuite  
• Family bathroom  
• Gardens front and rear  
• Double garage  
• Awaiting EPC rating  
**£525,000**

**HEDNESFORD**  
**RAWNSLEY ROAD**



**NEW**  
**SOLD**  
similar required  
• NO CHAIN  
• Two bedrooms  
• Two reception rooms  
• Re-fitted Kitchen  
• Spacious bathroom  
• Enclosed rear garden  
• Off road Parking  
• Ideal first time buy  
• Awaiting EPC rating  
**£119,950**

**HEDNESFORD**  
**BROMLEY CLOSE**



**NEW PRICE**  
• A modern three bedroom semi detached  
• Gas central heating and double glazing  
• Lounge, Refitted kitchen/diner  
• Master bedroom with ensuite  
• Two further bedrooms  
• Family bathroom  
• Garden front and rear  
• Driveway  
• EPC rating C  
**£159,950**

**HEATH HAYES**  
**DENBURY CLOSE**



• A three bedroom property  
• Gas central heating and double glazing  
• Lounge, refitted kitchen/diner  
• Three bedrooms  
• Family bathroom  
• Enclosed rear garden  
• Tandem garage  
• Driveway  
• EPC rating D  
**£209,950**

**HEDNESFORD**  
**STAFFORD LANE**



• A spacious two bedroom semi detached  
• Gas central heating and double glazing  
• Lounge, dining area  
• Kitchen, two bedrooms  
• Refitted bathroom  
• Gardens front and rear  
• Garage  
• Driveway  
• Awaiting EPC rating  
**£149,950**

**CANNOCK**  
**ST AIDANS ROAD**



• A two bedroom semi detached house  
• Gas central heating and double glazing  
• Lounge, refitted kitchen/diner  
• Two good sized bedrooms  
• Family bathroom  
• Garden to front  
• Corner plot  
• Enclosed rear garden  
• Awaiting EPC rating  
**£124,950**

**CANNOCK**  
**MANOR AVENUE**



• Spacious three bedroom detached  
• Hallway, Lounge  
• Dining room  
• Kitchen  
• Utility room, cloakroom  
• Three good sized bedrooms  
• Bathroom  
• Awaiting EPC rating  
**£242,000**

**CANNOCK**  
**WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD**



• Two bedroom Terraced  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Modern fitted kitchen  
• Family bathroom  
• Off road parking, gargee  
• Town centre location  
• Rear Garden  
• EPC rating E  
**£135,000**

**CANNOCK**  
**NEWHALL STREET**



• A two bedroom property  
• Gas central heating and double glazing  
• Lounge and dining room  
• Kitchen and guest cloakroom  
• Two good sized bedrooms  
• Family bathroom  
• Good sized rear garden  
• EPC rating E  
**£139,950**

**CANNOCK**  
**MORETON STREET**



• A two bedroom detached bungalow  
• Central heating and double glazing  
• Lounge, dining room  
• Kitchen, shower room  
• Two bedrooms  
• Good sized rear garden  
• In need of modernisation  
• Awaiting EPC rating  
**£149,950**

**CHESLYN HAY**  
**STATION STREET**



• A traditional two bedroom property  
• Lounge, dining room  
• Refitted kitchen  
• Refitted first floor bathroom  
• Two good sized bedrooms  
• Garden to rear  
• Viewing recommended  
• Ideal first time buy  
• EPC rating G  
**£129,950**

**HEDNESFORD**  
**GREENHEATH ROAD**



• Fully renovated three bed  
• Two reception rooms  
• Breakfast kitchen with dining  
• Utility/Guest WC  
• Family bathroom  
• En-suite Shower room  
• Driveway, garage  
• Awaiting EPC rating  
**£224,500**

**5 SCHOOL PLACE, TEDDESLEY**  
**ESTATE, PENKRDGE, ST19 6RW**



**WELL EQUIPPED SINGLE STOREY BARN CONVERSION**  
Sited on the Rural Estate of Teddesley Park  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• Inner Hallway  
• Lounge  
• Two Bedrooms  
• Bathroom  
• Fully Double Glazed  
• Oil Fired Central Heating  
• Communal Grounds  
• No DSS, Pets or Smokers  
• EPC Rating D (55)  
**£625 pcm**

**2 RICKYARD PLACE, TEDDESLEY**  
**PARK ESTATE, PENKRDGE, ST19**



**WELL EQUIPPED THREE BEDROOMED BARN CONVERSION**  
Sited on the Picturesque Estate of Teddesley Park  
• Entrance Hall  
• Lounge  
• Dining Room  
• Guests Cloakroom  
• Oil Fired Central Heating  
• Communal Driveways & Parking  
• Three Bedrooms  
• En-Suite Shower Room & Bathroom  
• Fully Double Glazed  
• No DSS, Pets or Smokers  
• EPC Rating C (75)  
**£665 pcm**

**3 SMITHY PLACE, TEDDESLEY PARK**  
**ESTATE, PENKRDGE, ST19 6RJ**



**WELL EQUIPPED SINGLE STOREY BARN CONVERSION**  
Sited on the Rural Estate of Teddesley Park  
• Inner Hall  
• Fitted Dining Kitchen  
• Lounge  
• Three Double Bedrooms  
• Family Bathroom  
• Oil Fired Central Heating  
• Fully Double Glazed  
• Communal Grounds  
• No DSS, Pets or Smokers  
• EPC Rating C (73)  
**£595 pcm**

19 Wolverhampton Road, Cannock, Staffs, WS11 1DG  
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Upper Landywood Lane  
**CHESLYN HAY**



Immaculately Presented Four Bedroom Detached House / Large Plot 1/4 Acre in Size / Several Spacious Reception Rooms / Large Private & Secluded Rear Garden

Offers in Excess of £500,000

The Hollies  
**CHESLYN HAY**



Outstanding six bedroom detached family home / Set on an exclusive private cul-de-sac / Sought after village of Cheslyn Hay / Finished to a show home standard throughout / Six large well proportioned

£450,000

Littleworth Road  
**RAWNSLEY**



Five bedroom detached family home / NO UPWARD CHAIN / Breakfast kitchen / Drive for more than ten vehicles / Enclosed rear garden / EPC: C

Offers in Excess of £400,000

Meriden Close  
**CANNOCK**



Outstanding four bedroom detached family home / Overlooking quiet green to the front / Tastefully decorated & finished to high standard throughout / Generous living spaces throughout / Superb

£375,000

Dartmouth Road  
**CANNOCK**



Immaculately presented four bedroom semi detached house / Contemporary design & high specification finish throughout / Stunning open plan ground floor layout / Driveway for three vehicles

£325,000

Kingscroft  
**WIMBLEBURY**



Executive four bedroom detached family home / Set on large end plot within quiet & sought after cul-de-sac / Large private rear garden / Driveway with parking for several vehicles / Double garage currently

£320,000

Albany Drive  
**WIMBLEBURY**



Immaculately presented executive detached family home / Four double bedrooms / Set back & raised from the road on good sized plot down quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation

£305,000

Wenlock View  
**HEDNESFORD**



Executive four bedroom detached family home / Set on small private development / Stunning open plan kitchen-diner / Spacious living room / High spec kitchen / En-suite plus guest WC

£290,000

Slitting Mill Road  
**ETCHING HILL**



Immaculately presented five bedroom family home / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Set over three stories / Delightful rural area of Slitting Mill / Stunning views of the surrounding countryside

£260,000

Hill Street  
**NORTON CANES**



Immaculate three bedroom semi detached dormer bungalow / Set over floors / Situated in quiet cul-de-sac / Open plan kitchen diner / Stunning orangery to rear / Substantial first floor converted dormer

£250,000

Station Road  
**GREAT WYRLEY**



Well presented three bedroom 1920s style property / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom suite / Well proportioned bedrooms / Good sized private rear garden

£250,000

Lichfield Road  
**CANNOCK**



Very spacious four bedroom detached house / Open plan dining kitchen / Large open reception hall / Good sized private rear garden / Garage and driveway with ample parking

£240,000

Stephenson Way  
**HEDNESFORD**



Three bedroom detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious lounge-diner / Good sized private rear garden / Garage and driveway for four cars

Offers in Excess of £239,950

Old Fallow Road  
**CANNOCK**



Stunning four bedroom Victorian style character property / Lovingly restored and superbly maintained / Period features charm & character throughout / no onward chain / Driveway for 3 cars / 4 Double

Offers in the Region Of £235,000

Pye Green Road  
**CANNOCK**



Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Superb contemporary open plan layout on the ground floor / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Low maintenance private rear garden / Low

£195,000

View Street  
**HEDNESFORD**



Deceptively spacious two bedroom detached bungalow / Set on good sized plot / Charming mature private rear garden / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Delightful rear sun room

£190,000

Pye Green Road  
**CANNOCK**



Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Built in popular 1930s style / Set on good sized plot & recently refurbished throughout / Superb spacious open plan dining kitchen

£180,000

Hednesford Road  
**HEATH HAYES**



Extremely spacious three bedroom detached character property / Modern method of auction / Set on a large plot / Ideal for investors / Large rear garden stretching over 45 metres

£170,000

Oakleigh Drive  
**BRERETON**



Well presented two bedroom semi detached house / Set within quiet cul-de-sac location / Far reaching views of the countryside / Superb contemporary split level layout / Good sized tiered private rear garden

£160,000

Huntington Terrace Road  
**CANNOCK**



1930s style three semi detached house / Spacious lounge & dining room / Modern kitchen / Driveway / Good sized rear garden

Offers in Excess of £150,000

Hussey Road  
**NORTON CANES**



Well presented two bedroom semi detached house / Good sized lounge / Modern fitted open plan dining kitchen / Charming private rear garden / Driveway for two vehicles

Offers in the Region Of £140,000

Gorsemoor Road  
**HEATH HAYES**



Two bedroom traditional semi detached house / Good sized plot with a large charming rear garden / Driveway with ample off road parking / Sought after location / Spacious reception rooms and bedrooms

Offers in Excess of £130,000

Littleworth Road  
**RAWNSLEY**



Two Bedroom Mid Terraced House / Original Features, Character & Charm Combined With A Modern Finish / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Modern Fitted Kitchen / Modern Family Bathroom

Offers in Excess of £130,000

Bryans Way  
**WIMBLEBURY**



Two bedroom semi detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Rural views to rear / Spacious lounge and kitchen-diner / Private rear garden / Driveway for 2 cars

Offers in Excess of £125,000

Springfield Rise  
**HEDNESFORD**



Well presented two bedroom terraced house / Set on quiet cul-de-sac / Tastefully decorated & finished to good modern standard / Two spacious reception rooms / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom /

£120,000

Heath Way  
**HEATH HAYES**



Two bedroom first floor apartment / NO ONWARD CHAIN / New carpet and freshly decorated throughout / Allocated & visitor parking / New bathroom

£110,000

Littleworth Road  
**HEDNESFORD**



Three bedroom character property / Situated in semi rural location / NO ONWARD CHAIN & VACANT POSSESSION / Two spacious reception rooms / Private rear garden & off road parking

Offers in Excess of £110,000

Nelson Drive  
**WIMBLEBURY**



one bedroom self contained ground floor maisonette / Quiet cul-de-sac / Open plan living area / Shower room / Ideal for first time buyers and investors

£75,000

Apple Walk  
**HEATH HAYES**



One bedroom ground floor apartment / Ideal for first time buyers and investors / Good sized open plan lounge-diner / Allocated parking plus visitor spaces

Offers in Excess of £65,000

Chaffinch Close  
**HEDNESFORD**



One bedroom self contained first floor maisonette / Quiet cul-de-sac / Modern fitted kitchen and shower room / Ideal for first time buyer or investors

£65,000

Tel: 01543 889410 [www.lovettco.co.uk](http://www.lovettco.co.uk)





### Say Hello

**Great Wyrley 01922 701001**  
185 Walsall Road, Great Wyrley WS6 6NL

**Burntwood 01543 686444**  
1 Lichfield Road, Burntwood WS7 0HQ

[paulcarrestateagents.co.uk](http://paulcarrestateagents.co.uk)

Burntwood Office - £475,000



LICHFIELD, TRENT VALLEY ROAD

- Extended detached family home 6
- Prime Lichfield city location 2
- Spacious breakfast kitchen
- Two receptions, superb conservatory D

Burntwood Office - £435,000



BURNTWOOD, HIGHFIELDS ROAD

- Deceptively Spacious Detached 4
- Two Reception Rooms 4
- Four Bedrooms With En-Suites D
- Ample Off Road Parking

Great Wyrley Office - o/o £340,000



GREAT WYRLEY, CEDAR GROVE

- Impressive, detached family home 4
- Pleasant Cul-de-Sac location 3
- Superb breakfast kitchen
- Four bedrooms, two en-suites

Great Wyrley Office - o/o £335,000



GREAT WYRLEY, STATION ROAD

- Detached 'dormer style' house 4
- Immaculate, contemporary interiors 2
- Four double bedrooms
- Ample off road parking F

Great Wyrley Office - £270,000



GREAT WYRLEY, WALSALL ROAD

- Impressive period property 5
- Close to schools & amenities 2
- Five double bedrooms
- Ample parking to the rear C

Burntwood Office - £265,000



BURNTWOOD, ST STEPHENS ROAD

- Extended link-detached family home 3
- Popular residential location 2
- Two spacious reception rooms
- Ample driveway, tandem garage E

Burntwood Office - £255,000



BURNTWOOD, GARRICK RISE

- Detached family residence 4
- Through lounge/diner 1
- Refitted kitchen & bathroom
- Cul-de-Sac location D

Great Wyrley Office - £220,000



CHESLYN HAY, ROSEMARY AVENUE

- Extended semi-detached house 4
- Popular Cul-de-Sac location 1
- Four good sized bedrooms
- No onward chain

Great Wyrley Office - £219,950



CHESLYN HAY, DUNDALK LANE

- Stunning Semi-Detached Bungalow 2
- Refurbished Throughout 1
- Prime Location
- No Upward Chain C

Burntwood Office - £199,950



BURNTWOOD, ROCHESTER AVENUE

- Well presented, modern semi 3
- Contemporary interiors 1
- Popular residential location
- Close to schools & shops D

Great Wyrley Office - £194,950



BLOXWICH, COLLIERY DRIVE

- Superb detached family home 3
- Immaculate, contemporary interiors 1
- Pleasant Cul-de-Sac location
- Driveway & garage D

Burntwood Office - £130,000



CHASE TERRACE, CANNOCK ROAD

- Charming cottage style semi 3
- Convenient Chase Terrace location 1
- Expansive private rear garden
- Ideal first time / investor purchase F



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PROPERTIES

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Penkridge Bank Rd, Slitting Mill

£389,950

NEW  
PRICE



● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious dormer detached bungalow in a semi rural location on the edge of Cannock Chase. Barton Lodge as the property is known has been updated and improved overtime by the current vendors and offers flexible accommodation with three bedrooms, two reception rooms, large conservatory,

Lower Birches Way, Rugeley

£259,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this four bedroom detached property situated on a corner position on The Birches. Internally the accommodation comprises: Hallway, Guest WC, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Breakfast Kitchen, Garage, Master with en suite, Three Further Bedrooms, Main Bathroom, Front and Rear Gardens

Holly Cottage, Colton

£385,000

NEW



● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this traditional detached cottage situated on an elevated plot within the Village of Colton. Holly Cottage has many features and an internal inspection is highly recommended. Externally the property has well maintained cottage gardens and also benefits from a detached double garage and plentiful parking. A rear hidden gem that must be viewed to appreciate

Deerleap Way, Rugeley

£179,995

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this extended and much improved three bedroom semi detached property with No Upward Chain. Internally features include a large refitted kitchen, utility/boot room, lounge, shower room and main bathroom, garage and gardens, viewing is highly recommended and the property offers

Buckmaster Way, Rugeley

£189,950

MUST  
BE  
VIEWED



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this exceptionally well presented three bedroom semi detached property situated on Ravenhill Park. Having the benefit of two allocated side by side parking spaces to the front and an abundance of upgrades throughout the property must be viewed to appreciate and is an ideal

Salisbury Close, Rugeley

£314,950

EXECUTIVE



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious four bedroom detached property situated on a corner plot with views towards Cannock Chase to rear. The property benefits from refitted bathrooms, large reception rooms, plentiful parking to front and landscaped rear garden, viewing essential

Somerset Avenue, Rugeley

£186,950

STAR  
BUY



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious and well presented detached family home situated on a large impressive plot with private gardens and plentiful parking. Briefly comprising hallway, guest wc, lounge, kitchen/diner, study, three bedrooms and bathroom, viewing essential

Dyke Road, Armitage

£168,950

VILLAGE  
LOCATION



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached home, in the sought after village of Armitage. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge and Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway for parking and Gardens to front and rear.

Lower Lodge, Armitage

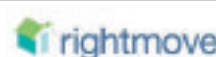
£109,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom mobile home situated on Lower Lodge in Armitage. Offered with No Upward Chain the property has lovely open views from the gardens and parking to front. Accommodation includes hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, gardens

"Serving Rugeley and its Villages"





www.jrpropertiesstaffs.com

25B Horsefair, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2EJ

JR  
PROPERTIES

T:01889 577731

E:enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com

Elizabethan Way, Rugeley

£285,000

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious and well presented five bedroom detached family home with open views to rear. The property has to be viewed to appreciate the location and accommodation on offer which briefly comprises hallway, lounge, dining room, guest wc, refitted breakfast kitchen, utility room, five bedrooms, three bathrooms (two

Armitage Road, Rugeley

£249,950

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this superbly presented detached three storey property in a popular location and built by Walton Homes. Internally the interesting layout includes four good size bedrooms, main bathroom and two en suites, refitted kitchen, lounge and garage with well presented frontage and rear garden,

Chester Road, Rugeley

£138,950

NO CHAIN



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this lovely two bedroom town house situated on the popular Birches development. Having an enviable location in a small row of properties with open aspect to front and side with No Upward Chain. Ideal FTB/ Investment purchase, viewing essential

We're Selling...  
Are You...?

CALL US FOR  
**FREE**  
VALUATION

Langley Way, Hawksyard

£219,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this superbly presented four bedroom semi detached three storey home. The property is positioned on a corner with garage and parking to the side. Internally the master bedroom occupies the top floor with en suite and dressing area, three further bedrooms, master bathroom, lounge, dining

Chadsfield Road, Rugeley

£310,000

NEW



● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale arguably one of the finest detached bungalows in Rugeley within walking distance to the town. The bungalow is situated on a large mature garden plot surrounded by similar detached bungalows in a leafy part of the town. The plot has two driveway entrances providing plentiful off road parking and has private formal

Antler Drive, Etching Hill

£245,000

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this fantastic two bedroom bungalow in Etching Hill with No Upward Chain. The bungalow really is a rare opportunity and sits on a prominent corner plot with gardens to front, rear and side with large sweeping driveway. Internally the bungalow has been updated and refitted to a modern

Sheringham Drive, Etching

£175,000

STAR BUY



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented detached home with No Upward Chain. Internal inspection is highly recommended and accommodation includes: Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner, Conservatory, Three bedrooms and shower room, Front and Rear Gardens with driveway

Waverley Gardens, Etching

£349,950

MUST BE VIEWED



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this unique detached property which benefits from far reaching views and backs onto Etching Hill. The property itself is exceptionally deceptive and offers spacious reception rooms, four bedrooms and modern bathrooms. The plot is unusually large with gardens to front, rear and side and

Huntsmans Walk, Etching Hill

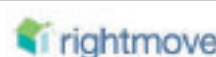
£165,000

NEW PRICE



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# New petrol option for DS7 Crossback



More choice of engines for the new DS 7 Crossback

Buyers in the market for a new DS 7 Crossback now have more choice when it comes to powertrains, thanks to the addition of a petrol engine to the SUV's range.

The French machine is now available with PSA's PureTech 225 turbocharged four-cylinder petrol engine, which currently sees action in the Peugeot 308. It's paired with an eight-speed automatic gearbox and develops 222bhp along with 300Nm of torque.

It'll take the DS 7 Crossback from 0-60mph in 8.1 seconds and on to a top speed of 141mph. As for efficiency, a number of technologies feature on the powertrain to help keep fuel economy high and emissions low.

These include the addition of a particulate filter and 'ECO' function on the gearbox that allows for free-wheeling between 12 and 80mph. The result is a claimed 48.7mpg on a combined cycle with CO2 emissions of 135g/km.

Available to order now, the PureTech 225 engine is offered on Prestige, Ultra Prestige and Performance Line trims of the DS 7 Crossback — with prices starting at £34,990.

There's another powertrain to come for the French SUV, too. It'll be a petrol-electric hybrid, sending 296bhp through all four wheels.

Full information on this electrified set-up will be revealed in due course.

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## MOTORING

### McLaren 720S adds to trophy cabinet



More international approval for the 720S

The McLaren 720S has added to its trophy haul by winning the top Best of the Best category of the 2018 Red Dot Design Awards. It is the second time that a new McLaren has been awarded the international seal of outstanding design quality, following the recognition of the McLaren 570S Coupé in 2016.

It was singled out by the 40 international judges for its "innovative symbiosis of aesthetics and function". Criteria for the competition, which is one of the world's largest design contests, include innovation, functionality, formal quality, ergonomics and durability. Of the 6,300 products from 59 countries vying for the ultimate Red Dot title in 2018, just one per cent were chosen as worthy of the Best of the Best title.

Additionally, the McLaren 720S was named Car of the Year at the Vehicle Dynamics International Awards 2018. Since its unveiling at the 2017 International Geneva Motor Show, the McLaren has 720S received a worldwide critical-acclaim including numerous awards and five-star reviews from key opinion leaders, as well as globally-read lifestyle and motoring media.

"To have the McLaren 720S design recognised as the Best of the Best by the Red Dot Awards jury is a great honour for us," said Rob Melville, design director at McLaren Automotive.

"McLaren is always brave in its approach and the 720S is the perfect expression of that innovative culture.

"The number of various design, product and engineering awards received by the car is a real testament to the quality of the team back in Woking and highlights the irresistible, all-round appeal of this incredible vehicle."

# SPRING DEALS



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The design has been perked up with more colour options

# Ford's EcoSport gets update with plenty to appreciate

By Carmel Stewart

Ford's EcoSport compact sports utility vehicle didn't get the rave reviews hoped for when it was first launched in 2014. Critics didn't like the interior materials, the design, the ride, the handling. In fact, bar the engines, there was very little they did like.

Roll up the extensively revamped mid-life version with an even more comprehensive engine line-up plus improved ride, handling and looks which have just about managed to hold on to the distinctive features, saving it from being subsumed by the one-look-fits-all-SUV school of design. There is also the addition of 4WD version which should boost its appeal.

The engine line-up still includes Ford's excellent multi-award winning 1.0litre EcoBoost engine strutting its amazing stuff across the Ford range. With 125ps at its disposal it'll travel from a standing start to 62mph in 12.7 seconds and on to a top speed of 111mph. Clearly not a world beater but more than enough for a practical family vehicle and, with an average 54.3mpg, it's not too hard on the wallet. A 100ps and 140ps unit are also available.

Ford's 1.5litre 100ps diesel engine combined with front-wheel drive is on the option list along with an all-new, six-speed manual gearbox. Joining the list is an all-new 1.5litre 125ps diesel EcoBlue engine which now adds Intelligent All Wheel Drive technology to the mix so no complaints there.

The design has been perked up with more colour options, a redesigned front end, new headlight and fog



There's a redesigned front end

light housings, LED daytime running lights, a new-look rear bumper and rear tailgate design. There are also 12 exterior colours to choose from.

Thankfully, the designers have not relinquished the quirky side-hinged rear door – albeit opening the wrong way for a right-hand-drive vehicle. Many do not like it but, to me, it adds character which can be enhanced by selecting the new ST-Line trim and going for a contrasting roof colour.

Inside, the EcoSport is a comfortable place to be with soft touch surfaces, plenty of storage spaces, ergonomically designed seats, a high driving position, a user-friendly eight-inch touch screen and mercifully uncomplicated dash. Ford has added seven choices of ambient lighting so 'occupants can match the ambience to their mood'. Not sure how that will pan out on the M1 on a Friday evening, but nice try.

One slightly old-fashioned feature to smooth the furrowed brow – at least of anyone over 50 – is the inclusion of a CD player – a delight to those for whom streaming is a technological mystery. The height adjustable boot space is 334 litres, more than enough for a family shop or carefully selected holiday luggage.

The addition of an ST-Line trim, which includes SYNC 3, adding all the essential Apple CarPlay and Android Auto connectivity gizmos, cruise control with adjustable speed limiter and a rear-view camera to save the unwary from those sneaky low walls and strategically placed boulders, is another plus for the new EcoSport.

Visual exterior ST-Line cues include unique bumpers, side skirts, black roof rails, 17-inch alloys, ST-Line badging, contrasting roof and colour co-ordinated door mirror housings. Inside, there is a leather-trimmed flat-bottomed steering wheel plus partial leather seats featuring red stitching, ST-Line branded scuff plates and stainless-steel sports pedals.

Prices start at £17,295 for the Zetec trim; £19,295 for the Titanium trim; and £20,095 for the ST-Line trim.

On the road, the revised EcoSport is comfortable and composed thanks to the optimised suspension and adjusted steering parameters. The ST-Line adds sports suspension which firms up the ride but not uncomfortably so. Ford's incredible 1.0litre EcoBoost engine eagerly responds to all demands made on it, well-matched as it is to the six-speed manual gearbox. An automatic transmission is also available.

So, all in all, nothing to complain about and plenty to enjoy.

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# Kia's Stonic does its job very well indeed - try it

By Sharon Walters

Kia joined Europe's fastest-growing market at just the right time last year. The small (B-segment) SUV has quickly populated our roads and the very different looking Stonic is making its mark.

This year Kia expects to sell between 8,000 and 10,000 in the UK and so far looks to be on track.

It was designed in Europe at the company's Frankfurt design studios and was originally intended only for Europe and thoroughly tested on European roads which gave it a good start against others in the class. But it impressed Kia's Korean home market that it's going to be sold there as well.

In the UK there is a five-model line-up based on grade 2 and First Edition trim levels. All versions offer an extensive package of connectivity features, including links to Android Auto and Apple CarPlay via pre-downloaded smartphone apps, while advanced electronic driver assistance systems such as autonomous emergency braking, lane departure warning and automatic switching between high and low headlight beams are available.

It's based on the Rio supermini and is slightly longer, taller and rides higher to give it an SUV stance. But it



The First Edition has colour accents in the cabin

doesn't look like a Rio as it has a bespoke body and interior – and how I like the exterior and interior. As mentioned earlier, it looks very different and makes a pleasant change to many of the opposition in the sector. And my test car First Edition stood out even more thanks to its two-tone paintwork with the roof, wing mirror casings and rear spoiler picked out in black, lime green, red or orange, depending on the choice of main body colour, and there are colour accents in the interior on the seats and around the lower centre console and display screen areas. Mine had the lime green on the graphite and while at first it looked a little 'in your face' I really grew to like it.

All versions have plenty of equipment, with an extensive range of active safety features and up-to-the-minute connectivity in First Edition versions.

There is a 7.0-inch display with a DAB radio and MP3 compatibility in grade 2, and in the First Edition this is upgraded to a 7.0-inch touchscreen navigation and infotainment system featuring Kia Connected Services with TomTom™, Android Auto™ and Apple CarPlay™ smartphone integration are standard across the range.

All models have 17-inch alloy wheels, air conditioning, all-round electric windows with an automatic function on the driver's side, roof rails, rear parking sensors, remote locking, electrically adjustable heated door mirrors, a 3.5-inch supervision cluster, Bluetooth with music streaming, automatic headlight control, bi-function projection headlights and cornering lights and LED daytime running lights, and a whole lot more.

The First Edition adds more including smart key entry system and engine start/stop button, automatic air conditioning, LED rear lights, privacy glass on the rear side windows and tailgate and heated front seats. It is not the highest quality of trims (but then this car doesn't cost enough to warrant that!) but is perfectly acceptable and good quality. Controls are not over complicated and everything is well laid out.

Three engines are available, headed by Kia's little jewel, the 1.0-litre T-GDi unit delivering 118bhp.

This was my power in the test car and it is a little gem indeed. It took on a lengthy motorway run with no trouble with plenty of poke when needed and cruised along very nicely. Official figures show 56.5mpg with emissions of 115g/km. I managed around 52 but then I wasn't driving in 'laboratory' conditions. There's also a 1.4-litre multi-point injection (MPI) naturally aspirated 98bhp petrol engine and the 108bhp 1.6-litre CRDi turbodiesel.

Add the seven year/100,000 mile warranty and this car deserves a test.



The very different looking Stonic is making its mark

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Kia range of vehicles are between Urban: 29.1 (9.7) – 80.7 (3.5), Extra-Urban: 46.3 (6.1) – 94.2 (3.0) and Combined: 38.2 (7.4) – 88.3 (3.2). The official CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Kia range of vehicles are between 86 – 189g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. 7 year /100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms and exclusions visit [kia.co.uk](http://kia.co.uk) or see your local dealer. \*You will not own the vehicle until all payments are made. T&Cs apply. Subject to status. 18s or over. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. Further charges may be made subject to the condition or mileage of the vehicle. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew; Part exchange the vehicle; (ii) Retain; Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. Price and specification is subject to change without notice. Offers subject to stock availability, terms and conditions. Acorn Kia is a credit broker not a lender for this financial promotion. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Pictures for illustration purposes only.





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## O'Malley Family Funerals

A truly personal service

“The sympathy and respect shown was second to none...No hidden charges, no extra unexpected costs...inexpensive but still giving a high cost service”

Our All-inclusive Cremation Packages (No hidden charges)  
Direct £1250 | Simple £1800 | Traditional £2500  
Burial packages available from £850 plus cemetery fees. Pre-payment plans also available.

We are a family business serving all areas and provide free home arrangements and transport to our funeral home.  
No matter your circumstances or requirements we are here to help.

Call us anytime - 01543 529813

www.omalleyfunerals.co.uk

Golden Charter 16-20 North Street, Cannock WS11 0BA

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- Funerals arranged in any area



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01543 422524

info@georgestaceyfuneralservices.co.uk

www.georgestaceyfuneralservices.co.uk



## Family ANNOUNCEMENTS

HERE TO SHARE YOUR TODAYS, TOMORROWS AND YESTERDAYS

Whether you're celebrating a special occasion or remembering a loved one - we're here to help.

Just call us on 01902 317878

Our lines are open between 8.30am and 5.30pm Monday to Friday.  
Closed Saturdays and Bank Holidays

## DAILY DEADLINES

- Before 4.00pm Monday to Friday for the next day's edition
- Before 4.30pm Friday for Monday
- Subject to change Bank Holidays

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BOOKANAD.EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK  
OR CALL US ON 01902 317878

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Family Funeral Directors  
'An Independent Business'

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- Home arrangements any area
- Qualified Funeral Directors & Embalmers
- Guaranteed Pre-payment funeral plans

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WS12 4LA Tel: 01543 879866

Generations of Dedication & Service  
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## A.J. Sellman

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St. Michaels Square, Penkridge

67 Station Street, Cheslyn Hay

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Agents For:

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Funeral Plans

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WITH EVERY FUNERAL ARRANGED  
A PERSONALISED KEEPSAKE  
AN ON-LINE MEMORIAL

For your friends and family to share memories and photos.

A FUNERAL NOTICE

Giving funeral information and directions,  
for you to share instantly with all your phone contacts.

We're local, we're independent and we care!

Halliwell Funeral Service  
Hednesford Road, HEATH HAYES  
01543 459200  
halliwellfuneralservices.com



Also at PELSALL: 01922 685999

and COSELEY: 01902 884881

Here for you - 24 hours a day!

Part of Tamworth Co-operative Society Ltd. Not connected with any other business in the area.

Halliwell Funeral Service  
Walsall Road, GREAT WYRLEY  
01922 419090  
halliwellfuneralservices.com



## Deaths

## HIPKISS

Malcolm

Passed away peacefully on Saturday, May 26, 2018, aged 77 years.

Much loved and sadly missed by all his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service is to be held on Wednesday, June 13, at 3.30pm, at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired, can be made to The National Heart and Lung Association.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman  
Family Funeral Directors  
70 Church Street,  
Cannock, WS11 0BA  
01543 502322

## BROUGH

Gladys

Of Great Wyrley, passed away peacefully in her sleep on May 28, 2018, aged 94 years.

Dearly loved Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Sister, who will be sadly missed.

Her Funeral Service will take place at St Mark's Church, Great Wyrley, on Tuesday, June 12, 2018, at 1.30pm.

Following the Service, Gladys will be laid to rest at Great Wyrley Cemetery.

Flowers would be welcome.

All further inquiries to

A.J. Sellman  
Family Funeral Directors  
67 Station Street,  
Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG  
01922 410612

## LONGMORE

Bill

Former Police and Crime Commissioner, West Mercia. Superintendent in Cannock, Staffordshire Police.

Beloved Husband of Ursula and much respected by his Family and Friends. Passed away peacefully at home.

Following a private Family Committal there will be a Ceremony of Remembrance and Thanksgiving in Shrewsbury Abbey Church, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury on Saturday, June 9 at 11.30am.

Family flowers only, however all donations will support the work of The Lingen Davies Unit.

All inquiries please to

AUBREY KIRKHAM  
Funeral Directors,  
Frankwell Island,  
Shrewsbury,  
01743 368999

## NOLAN

James Francis

Sadly passed away Saturday, May 26, 2018, aged 81 years.

James was much loved and will be dearly missed by all his Family and Friends.

His Funeral Service will be held at Bushbury Crematorium East Chapel, on Friday, June 15, 2018 at 1.45pm.

Family flowers only please.

Donations if so desired to Ronald McDonald House Charity.

All inquiries

A.J. Sellman  
Family Funeral Directors  
67 Station Street,  
Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG  
01922 410612

## SMITH

Janet

Of Hednesford.

Passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, May 26, 2018, aged 73 years.

Janet will be sadly missed by all her loving Family and Friends.

Funeral Service to be held at Stafford Crematorium, on Wednesday, June 13, 2018, at 1.30pm.

Flowers welcome.

Inquiries to

HALLIWELL

Funeral Service

164 Walsall Road,

Great Wyrley,

WS6 6NQ.

Telephone 01922 419090.

## WHITTINGHAM

Reginald Thomas George

Passed away peacefully on Saturday, May 26, 2018, aged 80 years.

Reginald was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Monday, June 25, 2018, at St Saviour's Church, Hatherton at 10.30am.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired, for Cancer Research UK and Alzheimer's Society.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman  
Family Funeral Directors  
70 Church Street,  
Cannock, WS11 0BA  
01543 502322

## WORTHINGTON

Glenys Ann

nee Jackson

Of Great Wyrley and Hednesford.

Passed away Sunday, May 27, 2018, aged 70, now free from pain.

A devoted Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Auntie, a wonderful woman who gave love, joy, inspiration and compassion to all she met.

'How are you Glen, I'm all right thanks.'

You were more than all right.

For Funeral arrangements please contact Funeral Director.

Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Stroke Association.

Inquiries to

HALLIWELL

Funeral Service

164 Walsall Road,

Great Wyrley,

WS6 6NQ.

Telephone 01922 419090.

## In Memoriam

## MORGAN

Ron

June 10, 2015

Your touch, your smile, was always so tender.

Today, tomorrow, we will always remember.

Forever in our hearts.

Pam, Ian, Debbie, Tom, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

## PREECE

Patricia

Loving Sister, in our hearts you will always stay.

Loved and remembered every day.

Marg and Dave.

X X X

## Acknowledgements

## CARROLL

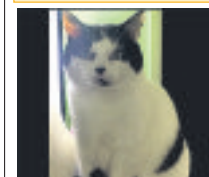
Patricia Marjorie

The Daughters of the late Pat would like to thank Family and Friends for their messages of sympathy and support at this sad time.

We would also like to thank everyone who attended Mum's Funeral and the £425 received in donations for The British Heart and Lung Foundation.

Thank You.

## Lost &amp; Found



STILL MISSING

White cat, black patches, black nose. Missing since April 26, 2018, near St Anne's Road in Willenhall. May make his way back home to Walsall. Reward offered for safe return.

Please call 07496 390269

## FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENT

CUSTOMER

INFORMATION

Please note that the deadline for our weekly Cannock Chronicle is 4pm every Friday, for the following weeks edition.

This is subject to change Bank Holidays.

Eg (4pm Thursday)

Cannock Reception will be closing at 4.30pm on a Friday.

## Family ANNOUNCEMENTS

HERE TO SHARE YOUR TODAYS, TOMORROWS AND YESTERDAYS

Just call us on  
01902 317878

Our lines are open between  
8.30am and 5.30pm  
Monday to Friday.

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Bank Holidays

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- Subject to change Bank Holidays

YOU CAN NOW BOOK ONLINE AT

BOOKANAD.EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK OR CALL US ON 01902 317878



## 1 Family

### Elderly & Disabled

**PRIDE GOGO ELITE** Mobility scooter, as new. £300. 07961 545698.

**WHEELCHAIR** hardly used, £50. Mobility scooter with basket and charger, £50. Both excellent condition. 07989 949887.

**WREKIN STAIRLIFTS** reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

## 2 Leisure Time

### Boats & Water Sports

**MID 60'S** avon red start inflatable boat, 2.5 metres, excellent condition, £250. 01785 246358.

### Car Boot Sales

**CAR BOOT SALES!** Every Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday Muckley Corner, Hall Lane, Lichfield, WS14 0BE  
**Boaters £5** 6.00am-1pm  
**07538 842842**

**\* WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY BEST BOOTSALE** Ivy House Farm, A461, Springhill, Muckley Corner, WS14 0BE  
**\* 07890 267 041 \***

**\* BEST BOOTSALE IS BACK** Every Sunday 8am - 2pm Gates open 6am  
A34 Cannock Chase, Brocton, between Cannock and Stafford, ST17 0SG.  
**Sellers £5**  
**\* 07890 267 041 \***

### Caravans Wanted

**All Caravans Wanted** Any Age or Condition  
**\*CASH \* WAITING\***  
Immediate collection  
Call Bill on 07825 325 913

### Caravans/Motorhomes

A BEAUTIFUL PARK NR LUDLOW 35x12 caravans from £10,000. Gym Par 3 golf, bowls, why go further? www.bcpark.co.uk 01584823433.

### Holiday Home for sale - 2017

**Willeby Wrekin**  
BRAND NEW Limited edition, enhanced features £28,995 on a stunning 5 star park in The Welsh Marches set above the River Severn with private fishing & stunning Bowling Pavilion Nr. Shrewsbury. Will appeal to retired people & couples.  
Call Ron or Margaret 01743 885080  
www.sevenoakspark.co.uk

### Sports & Leisure

## Free Ads

IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY To sell items upto £250. Online at bookanad. expressandstar.co.uk

## mind, body & soul

### Massage

**THE TANNING ROOMS** Full body massage 30 mins £22, 40 mins £27, 1 hour £37  
SHOWER FACILITIES  
Call: 01902 782960

### what's on

### Markets

**STOURBRIDGE CAR BOOT** At Stourbridge Rugby Club  
Open every Wednesday from 16th May  
**07957 399964**

### holidays

### Caravan Holidays

**TO HIRE** Tywyn near Barmouth/Aberdovey **LARGE SIX BERTH CARAVAN** Seafront site, sandy beach, picturesque views, club and shop.  
Enquiries tel: 07979 716398 or 01543 878367

**SEA SIDE SOMERSET HOLIDAY** caravans to let, all overlook the sea. Half price OAP offer. 01984631781 www.hellwellbay.com

### Caravan Parks

**NEW & USED STATIC CARAVANS** for sale on award winning Country Holiday Park on the Staffordshire / Shropshire border. For details call 01902 851 302 www.oaklandholidaypark.co.uk

### Devon

**PAIGNTON The Kingswinford** June offers  
**2 nights, 2 people B&B** only £109  
**or 2 nights room only, £89** Room only available  
**FAMILY ROOMS AVAILABLE** All rooms en suite  
100 yards to beach and pier  
Contractors Welcome  
**01803 558358**  
www.kingswinfordhotel.com

### Self Catering Holidays

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Disabled Facilities  
Pet Friendly  
**01278 794111**  
www.GoSomerset.co.uk

### Travel Abroad

READERS ARE REMINDED to check with any Advertiser that their holiday costs are fully covered by a recognised bonding or insurance scheme.

### Yorkshire

**YORKSHIRE DALES** Meadow Holidays  
Country Cottages / Suites in Wensleydale  
Weeks from £209 per couple  
Weekends just £99 per couple  
Families Welcome  
Walk in scenic countryside by waterfalls or visit historic market towns with friendly inns  
Brochure (24hrs) 01969 624145  
email: rita@meadowholidays.com  
www.meadowholidays.com

## 3 Home & Services

### Furniture

**BLACK LEATHER 3-PIECE SUITE**  
Totally unused. Still packaged. Moving house forces sale. Cost £1,200. Can deliver. £370.  
**07379 694429.**

**CHARCOAL GREY** bed settee, 6 months old, £80 ono.  
07519 963254.

**Furniture not sold, why not donate it?**  
We can turn your quality used furniture into 1st class care for patients at Katharine House  
**Call us now on 01543 466885**  
for details or to arrange a FREE collection

### In Your Garden

**C B SHEDS & FENCING**  
We supply & fit. Free quotes. Call: 01922 720270  
We also supply sleepers and decking

**CHESTNUT SHEDS AND FENCING LTD**  
Manufacturers and Suppliers of Heavy Duty Fully Tanalised Sheds, Summerhouses & All Garden Buildings.  
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www.chestnutshedsandfencing.co.uk

**LAWN TURF SUPPLIES**  
LUSH GREEN GARDEN TURF CUT FRESH IN EASY TO LAY ROLLS. DELIVERIES DAILY  
TRENT VALLEY TURF  
**01902 738217**

**SLABS 450mm x 450mm RIVEN FACED**, only £1.87 inc. VAT.  
Ranton Building Supplies: 01543 276006.

### Antiques

**Louis Taylor**  
Antique valuations first  
Wednesday of every month, 10am - 2pm  
Ancient High House Museum, Stafford, ST16 2JA  
**01782 638100**

**ANTIQUES WANTED**  
Furniture, Clocks, China, Medals, Coins, Old wind-up Wrist and Pocket Watches  
Paintings, Gold/Silver/Costume Jewellery  
**CHASE ANTIQUES**  
(Over 40 Years Trading)  
**01543 572367 07831 818024**

### Items For Sale

**ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED** That the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**ASH RECLAMATION** new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

**CORRUGATED GALVANISED** Sheets, New, £8 can deliver. Also box profile and PVC/polycarb. David Broxton on 07834 489558.

**A GENUINE LADY BUYER** PAYS TOP CASH ON ANY TYPE OF GOLD  
Any type of gold wanted, e.g. 9 carat gold. Jewellery from £300+ per oz. Sovereigns £200+ each  
Any amount collected. Gold coins, silver, all medals, bank notes, old brassware, old cameras, oriental items, anything old, interesting or collectable  
**Call Pauline on 01922 495066 or 07971 783206**

**LADIES HATS** and Fascinators for Church, weddings, races etc, very formal, worn once only, from £10 each. 07766 887043.  
**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

### Items Wanted

**CASH PAID NOW! WANTED TOOLS**  
Hand Tools, Anything considered  
**01543 452 491**  
**07539 340307**

**A BEST CASH PRICE PAID** for antiques, vintage furniture, leather-winged arm chairs & chesterfield settees.  
**01902 454144 or 0121 5263375**

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

### Loans

**READERS ARE REMINDED** that they may require professional advice before entering into obligations.

## t.v. / home entertainment

### Service

**AERIAL AND TV SPECIALIST** Any TV Repairs. Digital aerials, Sky, CCTV cameras. TV wall mounts and TV set ups. 07850 330251.

## specialists at your service

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AERIALS FITTED FROM £79.99  
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01543 439095 • 01922 716029

**A A CLEAR VISION AERIALS**  
Freeview, FreeSat, Sky, CCTV  
Aerials from £79  
Dishes from £79  
OAP DISCOUNT  
**01902 752036**

### A AERIAL AND SKY SPECIALIST

Digital aerials, CCTV cameras, TV wall mount fitted. 07850 330251.

### Alarms/Security

**PREMIER ALARMS**  
Supplied and Fitted £249  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
**Call: 0121 601 9791**

### Blinds

**Contract & Home Blinds Aldridge**  
SPRING SALE ON VERTICALS & ROLLER BLINDS  
**50% off fabric in stock!**  
**Call: 01922 454 345**

### Building Services

**DAVIES & SON BUILDERS**  
All Building & Roofing Work  
Driveways, Landscaping  
Over 40 year exp | All work guaranteed  
Free Quotes: 07837 994465  
01902 579 592

### Building Supplies

**RECLAIMED BRICKS**, Tiles, Slates, Oakbeams, Flooring, York Stone, Cawarden 01889 574066. sales@cawardenreclaim.co.uk

### Carpet Fitters

**A CARPETS & VINYL** supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small. Free quotes call Mark 01543 820598 / 07941 619694.

### Domestic Repairs & Services

**SAME DAY LOW COST REPAIRS**  
Washing Machines, Tumble Dryers, Electric Cookers  
12 MONTHS GUARANTEE  
CALL ROY **07850 355552**

### Double Glazing Repairs

**S.P.S.** replace misted glass, locks, hinges, windows, doors, guaranteed. OAP discount. 07933 704899

### Driveways & Patios

**A&S CONTRACTING SERVICES LIMITED**  
Tarmacadam & Block Paving Specialists.  
Patios, Slabbing & Landscaping  
Over 30 years experience  
Free Quotes 01902 736051 or 07854 919937

### P.W. DRIVEWAYS

**The Block Paving Specialists.** Patios, Driveways, Pathways, Landscaping & more.  
Special Offer £50 PSM  
We will beat any like for like written quote  
Free Quotes & Advice  
**01785 609076**  
(Based in Stafford)

### TW LANDSCAPES

**Driveway Restoration Specialists**  
Cleaning & Sealing, Patios, Driveways, Decorative Gravel Drives  
All aspects of Landscaping, Fencing, Patis, Walls  
New Block Paving & Tarmac Drives  
**WE WILL NOT BE BEATEN ON PRICE**  
Free no obligation quotation  
call: 01785 878574 or 07845 483443

### External Rendering /Insulation

**RENDER OR INSULATION** 20 year insurance backed guarantee. Free Quotes 01902 495 699 www.ecotexcontracts.co.uk

### Fencing

**PORTWAY FENCING**  
SPECIAL OFFER  
10 Boys of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards **£795**  
Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.  
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656  
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm  
Sat 8am - 12noon  
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DELIVERY AVAILABLE  
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

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All Garden work and maintenance, Fencing, Tree Cutting, Turfing and much more  
Call: Steve for free quote  
**07774449000 / 01902 238653**

### BUSHBURY FENCING

**FITTING SPECIALISTS**  
FREE QUOTES  
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**07816 863810**

### Gardening Services

**Landywood Tree & Landscaping Services**  
All garden work, tree felling/topping, pruning, hedges trimmed, turf, patios, fencing, block-paving etc.  
www.landywoodlandscaping.co.uk  
01922 898 710 / 07973 177 976

**JC'S LAWN CARE**  
GRASS CUTTING AND EDGING  
Friendly / Reliable Service  
Regular and one off cuts  
**07879 418350**

### Gas Fitting

**READERS ARE ADVISED** To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered.  
It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

### Handyman Services

**HANDY MAN** - All trades, washing machines, outside taps, showers, plumbing, heating, gutter cleaning. Free quotes call: 07850 559315.

### Home Improvements

**RTD Builders & Home Improvements**  
• All general building work  
• Extensions & alterations • Kitchens & Bathrooms • UPVC Windows & Brickwalls & Patios  
Call Bob on 07710 611963  
davisr1952@gmail.com

### House Clearances

**A ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327 / 01902 534021

**ALL ROUND CLEARANCE**  
Professional family run business  
House clearances full or part, also garages, sheds etc.  
Telephone Kev  
**07794 912844**

### Kitchen Fitters

## THE KITCHEN FITTER

• Over 20 years' experience in kitchen fitting & project managing.  
• Specialist in fitting all retail kitchens.  
• Very competitive price.  
• Quick quotes over the phone can be given if preferred.  
• Supply now available!

### CONTACT MATT

**ON 07881 654 757 or 01543 373 233**

### Oven Cleaning

**OVEN CLEANING SERVICE**  
Ovens, double ovens, grills, hobs, ranges and agas. All cleaned to a professional standard.  
**S&J Oven wizard**  
**01785 612517**

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**LADY PAINTER & DECORATOR**  
City and guild qualified, local, reliable, affordable. 07916 399490.

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**ADAM DESIGN**, Building Plans.  
Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

### Plastering

**MINT PLASTERING**  
For the very best in plastering and rendering, full rooms inc materials from 110. Halls, stairs and landings from 200  
30 years experience.  
Free quotes. All work guaranteed  
**01543 327130 / 07519 694516**

**M&S PLASTERING & BUILDING SERVICES**  
Home/Garden Improvements.  
Over 30 Years Experience  
**Mark or Sara: 07741 770897**

### Plumbing & Heating

**TAD PLUMBING & HEATING**  
For all your plumbing needs.  
30 years experience  
**24 HOUR CALL OUT, NO FEE!**  
Call Trevor on **07791 313937**  
www.tadplumbingandheatinggloucestershire.co.uk  
No job too small or large. Call or text  
Will free quotes on: 07521 411108.

### Removals

**CALL DEAN NOW:** For all your Removals needs. 07429 453209 / 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

**KT HOUSE REMOVALS**  
13 years experience.  
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.  
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.  
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:  
**07771 727119**

**KC REMOVALS** We beat any quote, full or part loads, all areas. Anything considered. Call on 07867 862227.

### Roofing

**MG ROOFING**  
Flat Roofing, Tiling, Roof Repairs, Fascias and Gutters.  
Call **01902 238989 / 07580 465449**  
www.mgroofingwestmidlands.co.uk

### Upholstery

**MR B'S UPHOLSTERY**  
RE-UPHOLSTERING OF SOFA'S, DINING FURNITURE, CARAVANS, CAR RETRIMS AND MORE.  
www.mrbupholstery.co.uk  
**01543 877572 07738 851601**

## 4 Pets & Animals

### Equestrian Corner

**ALL READERS** are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information, this is a legal requirement.

### Guns & Dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS** Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

### Pets Corner

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:  
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.  
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.  
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

## 5 Business & Farming

### Business Opportunities

**READERS** are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

## 6 Property

### Accommodation To Let

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
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## Tennis scheme gives advantage to players

A REVOLUTIONARY organisation is bucking the trend in the West Midlands as national participation in sports declines.

Thanks to Local Tennis Leagues (LTL), adults have all standards have the chance to play friendly, competitive tennis on public courts.

Across Britain there are nearly 200 leagues open to men and women and last year more than 8,000 people took part, playing in excess of 30,000 matches.

In the West Midlands alone there are 11 leagues, including in Dudley, Lichfield & Burntwood and Wolverhampton. Local Tennis Leagues have spearheaded a sporting renaissance in local parks. It said what were often 'Cinderella courts' - left behind and forgotten - were now thriving again.

Leagues are open to adults over the age of 18, and a round - lasting eight weeks - costs £18.

To find out more or to join a Local Tennis League in the West Midlands visit [www.localtennisleagues.com/westmidlands](http://www.localtennisleagues.com/westmidlands)

## Black Country home to judo headquarters

THE British Judo Association is moving its headquarters to the Black Country as talks continue over holding the sport at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

The organisation is moving up to 30 of its staff from Loughborough Technology Centre to Kudhail House, on the Birmingham Road, Walsall. It moves operations closer to the British Judo Centre of Excellence, at the University of Wolverhampton campus in Gorway Road in Walsall.

There are also plans for judo to be held at the centre for the Commonwealth Games. It could see a new arena built for the sport.

British Judo Association chief executive Andrew Scouler said: "It has long been our ambition to have all staff based in a centralised location. With the proposed move to Kudhail House nearing completion, it promises to be an exciting future for the association."

The marketing and communications was the first to move to the new office. The remainder of the team will come over the next few months.

## Williams tops bill at new fight night venue

WOLVERHAMPTON'S Kyle Williams tops the bill on BCB Promotions' 'Emerging Stars' boxing show this weekend. He will fight defending champion Thomas Essomba over 10 rounds for the English bantamweight title.

Saturday's show will go ahead at Willows Banqueting Suite, Bath Street, Willenhall, after the original venue, Wolverhampton's Starworks Warehouse, was hit by a fire.

The show had then been moved to Wolverhampton University but has been moved to Willenhall and will now go ahead as planned.

The packed undercard features Antony Woolery, Lauren Johnson, Levi Ferguson, Sean Davis, Craig Morris, Damian Kiwior, Connor Parker, and Connor Lee.

Doors open at 6pm, with the first bell at 7. Tickets are £40, or £45 on the door. VIP ringside passes are £65.

To buy, contact any of the participating the boxers via Facebook or visit [iboxingtickets.com](http://iboxingtickets.com).

# Spluttering start but still on track after 90 years

## SPORTING FEATURE

Report by Charlotte Callear

**In 1965, the Provincial League and the National League merged, putting Wolves into top-tier racing for the first time**

In 1965, the Provincial League and the National League merged, putting Wolves into top-tier racing for the first time - and they have remained there ever since except for three years in the early 1980s.

Many legends have raced around the track, from Ole Olsen to 'Sudden' Sam Ermolenko and Tai Woffinden.

Olsen arrived at Monmore Green at the start of 1970 and won the World Championship final in 1971 and 1975 but the team did not finish any higher than seventh in the league during his time at the club. That was in 1973.

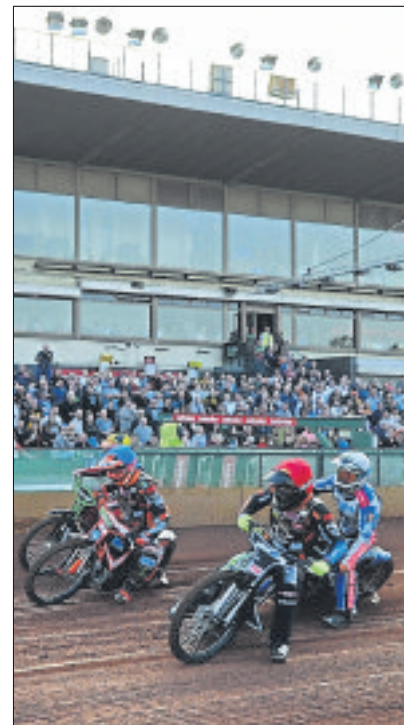
In the same year, the club raced against Leicester and won the Midland Cup final.

Olsen made 179 appearances and scored a total of 2,248 points. In 1986, Wolves signed American Ermolenko who went on to become the club's all-time leading scorer and won a world title in 1993. Chris Van Straaten took over the club and they climbed to third place in the British League in 1986.

Tragedy has also struck the venue with the deaths of riders such as Gary Peterson during the 1975 Midland Cup final and severe injuries suffered by Swedish rider Fredrik Lindgren who suffered head, neck and back injuries in August, 2011.

In 2001, they were sponsored for the first time by Parry's International who back them to this day.

The team have enjoyed their most successful period over recent years, becoming Elite League champions in 2002, 2009 and 2016.



All action - Monmore Green in Wolverhampton



Ron and Lynn Chadbone and Keith Couldrey



Lloyd 'Sprouts' Elder at the open meeting in 1928

**SPEEDWAY** at Monmore Green has revved past the 90-year mark. The stadium first became home to speedway in May 1928 but got off to a spluttering start when one bike failed to start.

A crowd flocked to see the first big clash between Englishman Ivor Creek and American Lloyd 'Sprouts' Elder but the engine on Elder's machine refused to fire.

However, not one to let the crowd down, Elder borrowed Creek's bike to put in some spectacular demonstration laps.

Wolverhampton got a taste for the roar of the engines and since then riders have clocked up countless laps of the Monmore track. And 90 years later fans turned out recently to mark 90 years of speedway in the city watching Wolves beat Poole 46-44.

The first time a Wolverhampton team actually raced around the track was in July 1929 against Warrington and Wolverhampton-born Tommy Deadman, who was employed by the Sunbeam Factory and was the biggest star at the time.

### Merged

Then, after two mediocre seasons and poor crowds, they closed for 20 years.

It was revived again in 1951 but the Wasps, as they were then known, only won a miserable five meetings out of their 36 league encounters and finished at the bottom of the table.

Down the road, Cradley Heathens lost £6,000 during the 1953 season and were at risk of folding but instead merged with the Wasps. The team was led by Brian Shepherd before he retired and then Harry Bastable but he switched to Birmingham so he could ride at a higher level.

Racing stopped again at the stadium in 1954. There was another seven years of silence at Monmore until speedway was relaunched in 1961 with the new Wolves team in the second tier of British speedway. The team were Provincial League winners in 1963.

But that same year devastation hit when the stands caught fire, resulting in the track's closure and major renovation as a new stand was built.

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## Ryan ready for charity tournament

RYAN Homer from Hednesford is taking part in this year's Brain Tumour Charity Judo Tournament, a competition held in memory of Jamie MacDonald, a Welsh Judoka who tragically lost his battle with an inoperable brain tumour last year at the age of 26.

As part of this tournament, British Judo Association Volunteer of the Year, Deryn Allen-Dyer, has gathered together a 'Dream Team' of current and former judo superstars including World/European medalists and a host of Olympians, who will go head to head against 'Jamie's Kids Team' made up of 20 junior judoka.

All athletes on Jamie's Kids are aged between eight and 16, come from all over the UK and had to be nominated for a place on the team.

Ryan, 10, has been lucky enough to be selected for this team and will get to fight head to head against one of these legends at the tournament on July 14 in Newport, Wales.

"The nominations were amazing and so difficult to choose from. I have actually had to allow 20 instead of 16!" Deryn said. "All the kids are amazing."

"They all have fantastic stories to tell from inspiration to bravery, courage, overcoming adversity, family loss, voluntary work, putting others first and humbleness amongst others. Everyone truly deserves their place on the squad."

## It's double delight in group games for in-form Staffs

STAFFORDSHIRE have given themselves a great chance of reaching the Unicorns Twenty20 Cup finals day after picking up two wins over Lincolnshire.

Staffs are now joint-top of Group One with Cheshire on eight points going into the last two group games in two week's time.

Kadeer Ali's side roared back in the first T20 game at Rolleston to win by 12 runs before spinner Richard Williams inspired them to a more comfortable second victory.

Ali and fellow opener Peter Wilshaw put on 72 runs for the opening wicket in the first match before finishing their 20 overs on 152-5.

Lincolnshire looked in good shape after reaching 78 for no loss but Staffs dried up the runs expertly and as the wickets began to fall, scoring slowed, and the visitors finished on 140-7.

Tim Maxfield smashed a quickfire 58 in the second match to help the hosts to 178-7 before Williams took 5-25 to give them a 42-run victory.

Staffs travel to Cumberland in a fortnight, while Cheshire visit Lincolnshire.

## Young players with sights on Wimbledon



Fifteen players competed in the Cheslyn Hay event

CHESLYN Hay Tennis Club held a competition for under-14 junior players as part of the Road to Wimbledon Challenge.

The biggest junior tournament in British tennis gives all players aged 14 and under of all levels the opportunity to progress to compete on the world famous grass courts in London.

The event has more than 850 qualifying competitions with nearly 10,000 juniors participating.

Fifteen players competed in the Cheslyn Hay event in a round robin format with the top two

players in each group qualifying for the quarter-finals. The semi-finals saw Keir Bruder beat Michael Dewell 6-2 and Jarnel Dhillon beat Luke Perry 6-2. In a keenly contested final Jarnel Dhillon beat Keir Bruder 6-4.

Both players will now represent Cheslyn Hay at the county finals on the same weekend as the Wimbledon Championships Finals.

Local tennis coach Chris Perrin, who organised the event, said: "It is great to see fair play and positive attitudes by all young people."

# PENKBRIDGE IN THE No 1 SPOT

PENKBRIDGE led the way in the Birmingham League Division Two after the top four clubs at the start of the day all lost.

After winning the toss at Pillaton, early pace-setters Pershore slipped to their second defeat in two games, going down by seven wickets after they were 110 all out. An unbeaten 64 from Rana Hassan took Penkridge to the top.

C&R Hawks moved into the leading pack with an eight-wicket win over Walmley. Dan Bromley's 51 was the highlight in Walmley's innings of 141. Kabir Ali took 5-33. In reply, Omar Ali (51) and Saqib Akbar (41 not out) saw Hawks home.

Division Three table-toppers Stourbridge picked up their fifth win in six games over Lichfield. Jack Warren (58) top scored as Lichfield posted 193-9 at Amblecote. Johal also ended unbeaten on 80 as Stourbridge romped to a nine-wicket victory with an unbroken second wicket stand of 121 between Johal and Matt Bradley.

Redditch moved out of the bottom four with an 81-run win at Milford Hall. Tom Phelan top scored with 31 as Robert Firth took 3-25 and Mark Thompson took 3-32 for Milford. The home side crashed to 48-7 before a recovery to 101 when they lost their last three wickets.

Connor Shingler enjoyed a terrific all-round day for Cannock as they beat Penn in the Staffs Clubs Championship. He scored 53, adding to a 105 from Faizan Khan and 50 not out from Will Fleet in a total of 259-5. Shingler then took four Penn wickets as they were bowled for 203. For Cannock, Shingler and Khan put on 95, then Khan and Fleet added 91. Tom Soten's 3-25 helped Whittington dismiss Aldridge for 96. Whittington ended on 97-4 to win by six wickets.

There were half centuries from John and Craig Jennings, 70 and 56 respectively, but in vain against Brewood. Hammerwich totalled 205. However, Brewood ended on 206-7 to win by three wickets. Mohammed Sultan hit 96 not out as Rugeley overhauled Bloxwich's 201 to win by five wickets. Matt Crossfield was 50 not out as Burntwood St Matthews (138-4) beat Beacon 3rds (137-9) by six wickets.

## Hednesford to step out in style



The white home kit and red away strip the Pitmen will be wearing Picture: @Hednesford\_Town

HEDNESFORD Town have unveiled their new kit for the 2018-19 season, with the design already proving popular with supporters.

Rob Smith's side look set to be one of the most stylish teams in the Southern League Central with their home jersey in white with a slight grey check pattern and black sleeves.

The away top is red with white sleeves and also features a faded checked pattern.

The kits have been designed by Italian firm Macron.

And they have gone down well with supporters who took to social media to comment on how good they look.

Robert Cater said: "Wow what a nice kit, seen the away as well and that's great."

While Richard Grice added: "How smart does that look?"

## Rock slips up – but is still in the money

ROBERT ROCK had a disappointing final day in the Italian Open to finish tied for 42nd after shooting two over par.

Rock, from Armitage, was joint-leader after a blistering 63 in the first round, but scores of 70, 69, and 73 ensured he eventually ended up outside the top 40.

The 41-year-old still pocketed £27,809 from the event, a week after finishing in the top 20 of the BMW PGA Championship trouserer him roughly double that.

Wolverhampton's Aaron Rai shot a final round of 71 to finish tied for 51st, earning him £18,539.

At the top of the leaderboard, Italy's Francesco Molinari came up agonisingly short in his bid for back-to-back wins and a third Italian Open crown as Thorbjorn Olesen held his nerve to claim the fifth European Tour title of his career.

Olesen carded a flawless closing 64 at Gardagolf to finish 22 under par, a shot ahead of home favourite Molinari, who had won the BMW PGA Championship at Wentworth last week.

The two players had been tied for the lead with two holes remaining, but Molinari followed four straight birdies by dropping just his second shot of the week on the 17th and Olesen birdied the same hole in the group behind.

The Italian refused to throw in the towel and holed a curling birdie putt on the last from 40ft to complete a 65 and pile on the pressure – but Olesen got up and down from a greenside bunker for par to secure the first prize of £874,000 in the second Rolex Series event of 2018.

## Two join Pitmen ahead of season

HEDNESFORD TOWN have made two more additions to their squad – and announced their pre-season schedule.

Left-back Nathan Fox, aged 25, and playmaker Jed Davies, 23, have signed for the Pitmen ahead of the new season. Fox began his career at Notts County and recently played for Redditch United, while Davies spent a month-long loan at Keys Park last season.

Manager Rob Smith said: "Nathan is a very consistent performer at left-back."

Hednesford host Wolves under-23s and League Two Mansfield Town this summer and visit Midland League outfits Heath Hayes and AFC Wulfrunians.

★ ★ ★

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Kettley, Telford.  
Thursday, June 7, 2018

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